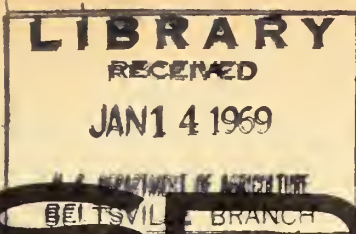


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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVIII NO. 1
JANUARY 2, 1969

FARMERS TO OWN CREDIT SYSTEM

Complete farmer-ownership of the Farm Credit System will soon be a reality, according to an announcement by *Robert B. Tootell*, Governor of the Farm Credit Administration. He said this accomplishment is expected within the next few months when all Government-owned capital in the credit system is paid off by Federal intermediate credit banks, banks for cooperatives, and production credit associations.

The FCA is the supervisory agency of the Farm Credit System, initiated in 1916 to provide credit to fit the needs of American agriculture. Peak Government capital in the System was \$638 million in the late 1930's.

The farmer-financing system includes 12 Federal land banks which provide long-term mortgage loans through some 680 Federal land bank associations; 453 production credit associations which extend short- and intermediate-term loans for farm operating expenses and capital improvements; 12 Federal intermediate credit banks which discount loans made by production credit associations; and 13 banks for cooperatives which extend loans to farmers' cooperatives.

The 12 Federal land banks have been farmer-owned since 1947; their associations have always been farmer-owned.

Health Plans To Change

Benefit changes—most of them minor—will be made in many of the USDA employee health benefit plans, and many plans will increase their premiums for the contract term which begins this month.

Rate increases are necessary primarily because of increased hospital and medical care costs and, in some plans, because of needed improvements in benefits.

Salary deductions covering any increase in premium will begin with pay period No. 1 (1-12-69 to 1-25-69).

Each employee will be provided with a Civil Service Commission pamphlet for more detailed information on specific changes in health plans.



AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE was well represented at the 1968 Annual New Jersey Education Association Convention in Atlantic City recently. Mrs. Betty Smith and Ray Gray, ARS, Eastern Administrative Division, Personnel Branch, Hyattsville, Md., manned the USDA-ARS exhibit at the 2½ day convention—the largest education meeting in the world. High praise for the exhibit and personnel came from Gregory J. Moraetis, New York Region, Civil Service Commission. In a letter to ARS Personnel Division Director Glavis Edwards, Moraetis said the participation of ARS in the convention "advanced immeasurably your program for expanded communications with the public and contributed significantly to our State-wide school information program. The warm response of teachers and school administrators to the efforts of the ARS and other participating agencies, speaks well for our continuing efforts to present a more favorable image of the Federal Service, and attract quality personnel. I should like also to commend Mrs. Smith and Mr. Gray whose efforts on behalf of your exhibit reflected most favorably upon themselves and your agency."



WORK UNIT CONSERVATIONIST Neal Munch of the Soil Conservation Service, standing waist-deep in a farm pond near his Freehold, N.J. headquarters, places an experimental duck nest while assistant State game manager Paul McLain of New Jersey lends a hand. Many a brood of ducklings is being hatched these days in such accommodations. Migrating ducks and geese today depend on agricultural land for food, cover, and winter quarters. They depend on the farm ponds, irrigation developments, and other water impoundments—some in areas where no water stood before. The SCS helps farmers and ranchers improve and create waterfowl habitat through regular soil conservation practices.

Agri Briefs

Controlling the height of standing wheat stubble not only traps snow but also partially controls snowmelt. That's the finding of DR. WAYNE O. WILLIS, Agricultural Research Service soil scientist, in research conducted in the Northern Great Plains. Wheat stubble, standing up to 20 inches, makes the snowpack melt faster than snow on bare ground. The trick is to catch and hold the water. In this semi-arid area, where snowfall contributes about 20 percent of the annual precipitation, spring wheat requires 8-10 inches of water before grain is produced. Each additional inch of soil water added to this base produces three or more bushels of wheat per acre. Studies by Dr. Willis and ARS soil scientist Howard J. Haas are underway at the Northern Great Plains Research Center, Mandan, N. Dak., to determine the best way of putting these findings to use in managing snow drifts and holding snowmelt water on the land.

A chart story of U.S. agriculture—from farm inputs to world trade—is contained in the recently published **HANDBOOK OF AGRICULTURAL CHARTS, 1968**. This reference book for economists and agribusinessmen has data in 157 charts on the general economy, farm commodities, foreign agricultural trade, marketing, farm population, and on family levels of living. The publication is the combined effort of four USDA agencies: Economic Research Service, Foreign Agricultural Service, Agricultural Research Service, and Statistical Reporting Service. Single copies of the handbook (AH-359) are available free from the Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. The charts are also available at cost, individually or in full series, in black and white photos or color slides. Sets of the entire 157 charts in color slides, for example, can be had for \$19.00 on order from Photography Division, Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Individual color slides are 30 cents each.

In a recent ceremony in Washington, D.C., USDA formally granted exclusive recognition to the National Joint Council of Food Inspection Lodges TO REPRESENT FEDERAL INSPECTORS of meat and poultry products. The Joint Council, affiliated with the American Federation of Government Employees, has 68 locals. Membership is comprised of nonsupervisory food inspectors employed by Consumer and Marketing Service and serving in packing and processing plants across the country. The Joint Council was formed by merger of three previously recognized inspector unions: The National Joint Council of Meat Inspection Lodges; the Northeastern Council of Poultry Inspection Lodges; and the Southeastern Council of Poultry Inspection Lodges. Their merger followed a consolidation earlier this year of the Federal meat inspection and poultry inspection programs into one food inspection component within C&MS.



MEET "MISTER ABLE!" That's what his co-workers call him. Actually he is Jerry Abel, a blind computer technician with the Minneapolis Commodity Office of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. To overcome the problem of communication, Abel uses a braille typewriter. His assignments are dictated on a dictating machine and he transcribes them to braille. He has demonstrated that his loss of sight does not handicap him from performing his full range of responsibilities in the computer programming area. Abel's success story is an example of what the Department is doing to use the talents of handicapped persons. It should serve as an incentive for other agencies to explore similar opportunities for other "able," though handicapped, applicants.

Tripp Heads Research

Verne W. Tripp has been appointed head of spectroscopy investigations for the Southern Utilization Research and Development Division, New Orleans, according to a recent announcement by Dr. C. H. Fisher, director of the division. Spectroscopy investigation is part of the Cotton Physical Properties Laboratory.

Tripp received his B.S. degree in chemistry from Loyola University in New Orleans, and his masters, also in chemistry, from the University of Detroit. He has been with the Southern division since 1942, and has become widely known for his research on the chemistry and microscopy of cellulose fibers, particularly cotton.

FS Opens New Labs

The Range and Wildlife Habitat Laboratory at La Grande, Oreg. (above)—one of three new Forest Service research installations dedicated in recent months—is an unusual architectural concept constructed entirely from native softwoods. It was designed by Forest Service architect A. P. DiBeneditto. The building is framed with Douglas fir, shingled and sided with western redcedar, and paneled inside with ponderosa pine, western redcedar, white fir, larch, and Engelmann spruce. It houses two large research laboratories where scientists are studying range ecology and big-game habitat.

Other Labs Dedicated

Other Forest Service laboratories recently dedicated are at Athens, Ga., and at Oxford, Miss.

At Athens, a new laboratory on the campus of the University of Georgia, added some 30,000 square feet of space to the existent Forestry Sciences Laboratory complex. The new building houses 15 specialized labs where studies are underway on development of short-term tree crops, control of forest insects and tree diseases, studies of soil-borne organisms, improvement of timber characteristics, and research on housing materials and marketing of forest products.

The entire complex is administered by the Southeastern Forest Experiment Station, headquartered at Asheville, N.C.

The new Forest Hydrology Laboratory at Oxford, Miss., is a research facility of the Southern Forest Experiment Station in New Orleans. It is located on a 15-acre site adjacent to the University of Mississippi campus. It includes a soil physics lab, a chemistry and radioisotope lab, a soil microbiology lab, and a plant physiology lab.

Projects in rehabilitation of severely eroded watersheds and in coastal plain hydrology are underway in the new installation.

HATCH ACT PAVES WAY FOR EXPERIMENT STATION RESEARCH

Have you heard of the Hatch Act? Certainly. It's the law that keeps politics out of the Civil Service, and vice versa.

Have you heard of the other Hatch Act? It's the one that, in good measure, is partially responsible for: Mechanized farming; our daily vitamins; those little cans of frozen fruit juice; aerosols that spray everything from shaving cream to household pesticides; wash and wear cottons; the discovery of streptomycin; the mass production of penicillin; and systems for preserving our soil, water, and forest resources.

Under the "other" Hatch Act—the Act of 1887—Congress established and appropriated money for an agricultural experiment station in each State as a department of the land-grant college or university. The stations' purposes: To conduct scientific studies on problems of agriculture, rural living, resource development, and of consumer problems related to agricultural products.

In addition to carrying out this research, State Agricultural Experiment Station (SAES) professionals help instruct students who are preparing for a career in agricultural sciences in land-grant colleges. Through arrangements between the stations and the schools, students schedule classwork to gain practical research experience.

Since 1887, the Secretary of Agriculture has been responsible for the proper administration of this Act. The Office of Experiment Stations was established in the Department in 1888 to represent the Secretary in administering the Act. The agency is now the Cooperative State Research Service (CSRS).

In 1968 about 23 percent of the funds supporting research at the SAES was derived from CSRS-administered grants.

Most of the SAES funds come from appropriations of the State legislatures and university sources.

Over the years, USDA research agencies and the SAES have formed close working relations. In 1966 a National Program of Research for Agriculture was developed jointly. Under this program teams of USDA and SAES scientists are developing recommendations for research priorities.

The USDA research agencies have field installations located at many of the land-grant colleges. Some USDA scientists work under joint arrangements with the SAES and share State facilities with SAES scientists.

An outstanding example of this close relationship led to a 1968 Nobel prize for an Agricultural Research Service/Cornell University scientist. *Dr. Robert W. Holley*, a professor of biochemistry at Cornell and long-time biochemist on experiment station staffs at Geneva and Ithaca, N.Y., led the research group at USDA's Plant, Soil and Nutrition Laboratory that worked out the structure of a nucleic acid.

Dr. B. Jean Appgar, an ARS chemist on the team, describes her experience in the 1968 Yearbook of Agriculture:

"Being the first person to do something has a certain fascination, but it isn't an experience most of us expect to have. . . . Our group determined the structure of a nucleic acid for the first time. That may not sound as exciting as climbing a mountain, but to those of us doing the work it was just as exciting—and just as much work!"

It is equally exciting to anticipate what new scientific surprises may be in store by the year 2000—thanks, in part, to the Hatch Act.



DONATO GONZALES

ASCS MAN IS HERO

An employee of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service is credited with saving the life of a farmer overcome by insecticide fumes.

Donato Gonzales, a compliance clerk with the Adams ASCS County office, Brighton, Colo., stopped at the farm operated by *Ronald Warner* in eastern Adams County to inspect farm-stored wheat under Federal loan. He found no one home but noticed a pickup truck and ladder at a grain storage bin. Gonzales said he climbed the ladder, expecting "someone to pop up and say 'hi'" before he was halfway up. He reached the top of the 18-foot-high bin, looked down into the interior, and saw Warner sprawled on his back, wearing a gas mask but apparently overcome by the fumigant he had been using to kill insects in the wheat.

Although he had no gas mask, Gonzales jumped into the bin, ripped off Warner's mask, and tried to lift the unconscious man to the opening in the bin roof. This proved impossible so he removed a lower hatch and was able to drag and lift Warner to this opening for fresh air.

Gonzales improvised artificial resuscitation until Warner began to breathe. He said it was perhaps 20 to 30 minutes after he arrived before Warner was breathing freely.

The ASCS man then ran to the Warner house to get help. The door was open, but no one was home and the telephone was out of order. He ran to another house on the farm, broke a glass to get in—no one was there either—and telephoned the fire department in Bennett, a community about 14 miles away.

Gonzales directed rescue operations as the firemen lowered Warner from the top of the bin with ropes and tackle, administered oxygen, and took him to the hospital for treatment.

The United Nations' Demographic Yearbook for 1968 reports 3.42 BILLION PEOPLE were on earth at mid-1967. At the present growth rate, this number will double by year 2006.



PROF. ROBERT D. SWEET, left, of the New York State College of Agriculture, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., and Dr. E. A. Walker, Division of Herbicide Registration, Agricultural Research Service, Washington, D.C., discuss a crop of muskmelons on an experiment station plot at Cornell. The two men exemplify the close working relationship between State and Federal researchers at State Agricultural Experiment Stations across the country. From such cooperation has come a multitude of agricultural developments and products benefiting us in our daily lives.

USDA TRAVEL CLUB RELEASES 1969 TOUR LIST

The USDA Travel Club is currently planning its schedule of tours for 1969. Many of the tours will originate in Washington, D.C., while some of the longer trips will originate in (or may be joined in) other sections of the country. All USDA employees and others eligible for travel club membership are invited to contact the club for further information on tours and membership. Address your inquiry to: *Mrs. Betty Brooks, WA Office, Rm. 1066 South Bldg., U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.*

TOURS PLANNED FOR 1969 . . .

FEBRUARY

Mummer's Bands-Show of Shows—Philadelphia, Pa.

MARCH

Cruise to St. Thomas-Martinique

APRIL

Aegean Sea Cruise

Azalea Trails, North Carolina and South Carolina

Day in the Amish Country
Virginia House and Gardens
New York City
Sunday Dinner
Lexington-Abingdon Theatre, Va.

MAY

Hawaii
Niagara Falls
A Day in Baltimore
St. Michaels, Md.
Annapolis
A Day in Old Newcastle, Del.
Winterthur-Longwood Gardens, Del.
Arboretum-Sherwood Gardens, Md.
Peaks of Otter, Va.

JUNE

Orient
Scandinavia
Mexico
Miami Beach
Hershey, Pa.
Seaside Special—New Jersey
Tangier Island
Fishing Trip
Sunday Dinner
Dressmaker's Delight—York, Pa.

JULY

African Safari
British Isles
Cape Cod
Shady Grove, Md.
Chincoteague, Va.—Pony Roundup
Mechanics Theatre, Baltimore, Md.
Greenbrier, W. Va.
Roanoke, Va.—Natural Bridge

AUGUST

Wayside Theatre, Va.
Nova Scotia
Oriana Cruise—Panama Canal and West Coast
Industrial Tour—Delaware and Maryland

SEPTEMBER

Spain-Portugal-Majorea
Southwest Parks—Southwest
New England



IT'S ELEMENTARY, MY DEAR FELLOW.—Bob Keifer, right, director in the USDA Motion Picture Service, Washington, D.C., coaches one "Sherlock Holmes" and crony, "Dr. Watson," on the techniques used for investigating egg defects. The behind-the-scene photo is from the production set of a 1-minute television spot explaining egg grading. The spot, which is in color, is scheduled for release this month by the Consumer and Marketing Service.

FHA Loans for Fun and Profit

More than 700,000 rural people are benefiting from 629 large-scale rural community recreation facilities financed by the Farmers Home Administration.

Since the recreation loan program started 5 years ago, FHA has advanced \$83.3 million in loans to nonprofit rural groups to develop facilities such as swimming pools, picnic parks, athletic fields, small golf courses, and lakes. During fiscal 1968, 226 rural communities received nearly \$24 million to develop recreation centers.

To be eligible for loan funds the community-sponsored group must be in a rural community of less than 5,500 population and must be unable to obtain credit elsewhere.

An additional \$5.5 million has been advanced by FHA to 780 individual farm operators for profitable recreation enterprises on their farms. This building is expected to accelerate since legislation passed by Congress last summer now enables farmers to convert whole farms to recreation enterprises.

Gettysburg-Allenberry, Pa.
Annapolis Dress Parade
Artisan's Fair, Md.
Miss America Pageant—New Jersey
Bucks County, Pa.

OCTOBER

Smokies—Atlanta, Ga.
Potomac Houses
Sunday Dinner
Harper's Ferry, W. Va.
Berkeley Springs, W. Va.
Shady Grove, Md.

NOVEMBER

Southwest Pacific
South America
New York City Theatre
Williamsburg, Va.

DECEMBER

New York City
Shady Grove, Md.



DR. M. L. UPCHURCH, left, Administrator, Economic Research Service, presents a "diploma" to Richard D. Parker, Watershed Planning Division, Soil Conservation Service, a recent graduate of a special training seminar in economic development of rural areas. More than 30 Federal and State employees have taken the seminar, designed to help them help rural communities. Students in the course get "basic training" in development strategy, analyzing the economic potential of an area, ways to work effectively with local groups and governments, and the types of community facilities needed to boost local development. As a final examination, teams of students set up development plans for an actual rural area which has had less growth than the Nation. Graduates go back better equipped to help the local areas they work with develop more jobs and more income for more people.

WHERE'S THE DRIVER?

A motor vehicle survey has revealed that in 1940 each car on the road contained an average of 3.2 persons.

In 1950, occupancy had declined to an average of 2.1 persons per car.

By 1960, the average was down to 1.4 persons per car.

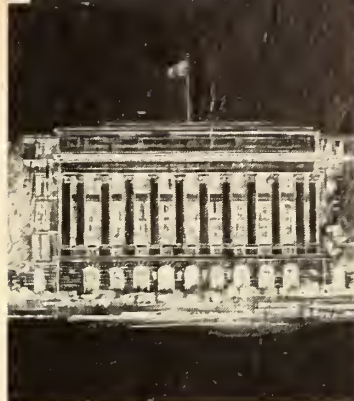
If we project those statistics to 1980, every third car going by will have nobody in it!

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JAN. 16, 1969



BRAZILIAN MARKET NEWS reporters pause for photo at the University of Missouri, Columbia, during their 8-week tour of American farms and markets, and USDA market news operations. Roberta Clark, second from right, a program specialist for the Foreign Training Division of USDA's International Agricultural Development Service, was technical leader for the team. State Department interpreter Miss Therezinah Piancastelli (center) also accompanied the group.

Brazilians Find American Agriculture and Music Swing

By Roberta Clark

Give the Brazilian observer of American agriculture a strong dose of agricultural techniques, throw in some jazz rhythm on the side, and you have a recipe for a happy visit to the United States.

At least this is my personal recommendation after an 8-week stint last fall as technical leader for a team of six Brazilian agricultural market news reporters.

Official sponsorship for the group came from the State Department's Agency for International Development. USDA's International Agricultural Development Service programmed the team's studies which took place in Washington, D.C., the Midwest, and the South.

The Brazilians were here as part of a special U.S. effort to assist Brazil in developing a modern market news service for agriculture. Under an AID contract, the Consumer and Marketing Service is lending expertise in Brazil and has cooperated with four separate teams of Brazilian market reporters learning the ropes in this country where our market news work is more than 50 years old.

The reporters I accompanied were earnest about getting new ideas and skills to employ in their own work at home. Their serious intent was evident in their promptness and interest at every appointment we had at USDA field offices and marketing locations. But what

caught their fancy during after-hours was American music—especially jazz.

The Brazilians also naturally responded to warm, friendly people. And they found many among USDA workers in the several States we visited. A highlight of the visit for them, as well as for me, was to learn what USDA people are doing and how they deal with farmers, auctioneers, buyers, salesmen, and the public in general.

On our itinerary were Michigan apple orchards burgeoning with red Jonathans. And scores of market men buzzing about the unique farmers' market in Benton Harbor.

There were squealing hogs and surly cattle at livestock auctions in Missouri and Illinois. Here, too, we saw Americans at work, some in cowboy boots and western hats.

Caramel-colored soybeans were everywhere—piled in farm trucks, grain bins, and on barges floating down the Mississippi River. There were even little packages of them on tables at Chicago's Board of Trade. We talked to soybean processors, market reporters, elevator men, and seamen on New Orleans docks.

There was rice chitter-chattering through a processing mill in Louisiana where we saw market reporters at work.

In many offices, USDA men operate shoulder-to-shoulder with State agricultural officials. Their relationships with each other were not easy to explain to the visitors, so we showed our

Scientist Knows Beans

The alertness and expertise of *Dr. Charles R. Gunn* triggered an urgent nationwide recall of jewelry pins decorated with deadly tropical seeds.

Dr. Gunn, a taxonomist with the Agricultural Research Service, Beltsville, Md., spotted the jewelry while Christmas shopping in a department store in the Washington, D.C., area. Since it is his scholarly habit to identify all seeds he sees, Gunn examined the several varieties used in the jewelry decorations. He tentatively identified the lethal jequirity bean among them.

"I was certain I had made the right identification," Gunn said, "but to make sure, I went to the office that same night and double-checked our seed collection."

He was correct.

Gunn then notified the store of his observations. Shortly, store officials issued recall orders on the jewelry, offered for sale by 138 retail stores in 117 cities. Through ads and stories in newspapers and on television and radio, the company urged customers who bought the pins to return them.

The jequirity bean, known in this country as the rosary pea and in botanical circles as *abrus-precatorius*, is so toxic that jungle tribes use it to make poison for tips of hunting spears and arrows. It is oval-shaped, half the size of a pea, and is either orange or scarlet with a black tip.

"Swallowing even one bean which has been chewed or broken may cause death because of the extreme toxicity," Gunn said.

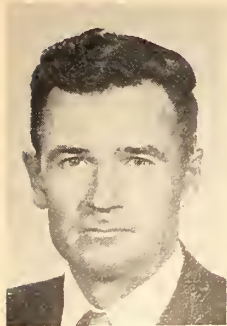
Gunn, a native of Columbus, Ohio, has been with ARS since 1965.

guests what was obvious: Market reporting is one big cooperative effort.

On returning to Washington, the Brazilians wrote a many-page report on all their observations. They reported on our economy, our communications, our Federal-State relationships, our technological advances, and our tumultuous growth in large-scale marketing.

They will remember these things with their heads, but I suspect their hearts belong to a Preservation Hall jazz combo from New Orleans.

AWARDED FOR 'FINE' JOB



N. F. FINE

Nathaniel F. Fine, a member of the USDA Vietnam Agricultural Advisory Corps, was honored at a recent Department of State ceremony in Washington.

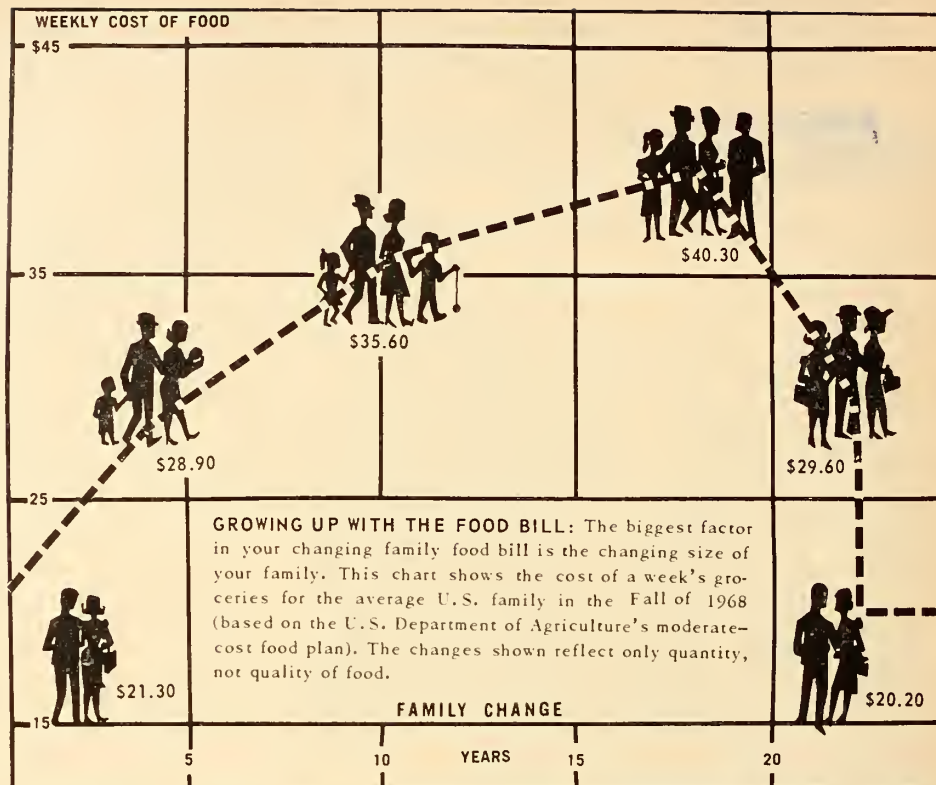
Fine received the Heroism Award for his exploits on February 18, 1968, as a member of a volunteer party to rescue a Free World Medical Team (Chinese) from a section of Phan Thiet city under enemy attack.

The award citation, which will be presented to Fine in Vietnam, describes in part his actions: "Although wounded by a grenade he continued to cover the medical team, moving to a more exposed position to assist and protect a severely wounded member of the rescue party for four hours while under fire and completely surrounded by the enemy. His courageous acts were instrumental in the success of the rescue."

The rescue team, which included Gerald J. Marcotte and James R. Smith of the Agency for International Development mission in Vietnam, previously received individual honors from the Chinese Military Command-Vietnam in recognition of its efforts.

Fine is one of 33 members of the Federal Extension Service under contract with AID who are helping Vietnamese farmers increase crop production and incomes. He arrived at his duty post in Binh Thuan Province on July 8, 1967, and is presently assigned to Binh Dinh Province.

Before volunteering for Vietnam agricultural service, Fine was a Cooperative Extension county agent in Colorado Springs, Colo. He will return to the United States early this year to assume the duties of county agent in Los Animas County, Colo. He is married and the father of two daughters.



New FHA Personnel Chief Named

Henry J. Wiemann recently assumed duties as director of the Personnel Division, Farmers Home Administration. He fills a vacancy created by the retirement in 1968 of James Somerville, now deceased.

A native of Lexington, Ky., Wiemann graduated from the University of Kentucky in 1932. He joined the Resettlement Administration, a predecessor agency of FHA, at Raleigh, N.C., in 1935.

He moved rapidly through the ranks and in 1941 he became chief of liaison services between the management divisions of the Regional Office and the five State directors. He was promoted to the Washington office in 1944 and transferred to the FHA Personnel Division in 1945.

Since October 1950, Wiemann has served as chief of the personnel division's employment branch.

Inspectors Cited for Rescues

Two USDA meat inspectors, one in Chicago and one in Portland, Oreg., were recently commended for life-saving actions.

William J. Chose of Chicago, a meat inspector for 26 years with the Consumer and Marketing Service, received a cash award and certificate for his heroic efforts during a fire and explosion in a Chicago food processing plant in February 1968.

Shortly after the fire erupted, Chose found Mrs. John Gannon, a plant employee, trying to leave the burning building down an inside stairway. He led Mrs. Gannon to a fire ladder on the roof, steadied the ladder, and talked to the frightened woman as she descended to safety.

As Chose started down the ladder, an explosion blew him into the street. He suffered severe and multiple injuries which prevented his return to work until December.

Another certificate of merit went to Robert Moentenich, C&MS meat inspector based in Portland. He was commended for his quick thinking and effective action in rescuing a woman employee of a Portland meat packing plant when her clothing became entangled in the revolving gears of a bacon slicing machine.



ABOUT 130 Louisiana ASCS State and county employees recently completed the National Safety Council's defensive training course. With instructor, State Police Lt. Jack Carter, are employees who do the most on-duty driving. They are, left to right, W. A. Rush, C. E. Slack, W. A. Winn, E. D. Dixon, C. L. Tubbs, V. C. Marsh, and L. E. Landreneau. All are ASCS farmer fieldmen except Slack who is State executive director.

Lady Engineer 'Hooks Up' With REA

"Oh, some people appeared to be a little shocked when I walked in that first day, but now I am just another electrical engineer trainee." The speaker and cause of surprise is petite Mrs. Shirley Ann DeMaris.

She is the first woman to enter the Rural Electrification Administration's 6-month training program for new engineering "recruits."

However, there is nothing unusual about it as far as Mrs. DeMaris is concerned.

"I never knew of a reason I couldn't be an electrical engineer. People who are qualified can do most anything they want to," she observed.

Interests in science and math, developed during high school in her hometown of Longview, Wash., led Mrs. DeMaris to study electrical engineering in college. She graduated from Oregon State University in June 1968—one of two girls among the 66 electrical engineers in the 2,000-student graduating class.



She was interviewed by a municipal company, three power companies, and the Bureau of Reclamation. She also talked to an REA field engineer who was recruiting at Oregon State. It wasn't long before a job application was on its way to the REA Personnel Division.

Why did Mrs. DeMaris select REA?

"Because of the opportunity to be trained in all phases of the engineering field," she says, "and I really hadn't been out of the State of Oregon; so it offered an opportunity to see the center of our Federal Government."

Her training in REA's Power Supply



MR. COST REDUCTION, USDA

☆☆ For January 1969 ☆☆

MANY A TYPIST has gnashed teeth trying to get entries aligned precisely enough for optical scanners—the 'eyes' that read those special letters and numbers on computer input forms such as those on your paychecks or utility bills. Clerks in some 2,800 county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service offices will soon have reason to be grateful to Michael J. "Jack" Hanley, county specialist in the Washington State ASCS office, Spokane. He invented a plastic attachment for typewriters used in preparing these special forms. Carefully calculated lines on the device make quick and easy work of the exact alignment. The Hanley aligner is being installed on typewriters throughout ASCS offices. Clerks can save about 30 seconds handling time per form. With more than 7 million forms typed annually, this saves ASCS about \$160,000. For his invention, Hanley received a \$1,215 cash award under the Incentive Awards Program, a letter of commendation from Secretary Freeman, and a plaque. Other Government agencies—as well as business firms—may also benefit from Hanley's invention since the use of optical scanners is becoming more widespread. If a similar attachment can benefit your work, contact your employee suggestions coordinator. Be a USDA Cost Reducer of the Month! Tell us about that money-saving idea—small or big—with the widespread potential.

"PET" PROJECT CANCELLED—The passenger arriving at Dulles International Airport, Washington, D.C., didn't hesitate to show USDA quarantine inspectors the jar of 14 live snails she had brought from Spain. She planned to raise them as pets, she explained. The inspectors, finding several plant-attacking snails, had no alternative but to seize and destroy the "pets."

Division, started in September 1968, will include transmission, planning and procurement, loans, and management.

Has she ever climbed a pole?

"You bet I have," she said, "but it wasn't in the line of duty."

It was, however, in pursuit of her hobby—hunting. When a herd of antelope disappeared over a hill in Oregon, Mrs. DeMaris scaled a nearby pole to check their whereabouts.

The lady engineer's husband, Roger, is also an electrical engineer. The two met during their last year of college.

Graduate School Adds New Courses

For its 1969 spring semester evening program, the Graduate School has added several new courses. These include:

Retirement Plans: Design and Administration (6-474)

Current Issues in Personnel Administration (6-439)

Legal Aspects of Sale, Rental, and Purchase of Property (6-426)

Urbanization and Mental Health (7-749)

Nature in Philosophy and Religion (7-319)

Latin American Developments and Potentials (7-557)

Introduction to Chinese and Japanese Art (8-344)

Problems in Urban Contemporary Development (8-354)

Biochemistry and Physiology of Fruits (1-580)

American Negro Literature (2-217)

Communication With New Twist (2-79)

Documentary Film (2-276)

Mathematical Modeling in Physical and Social Sciences and Operations Research (3-418)

Network Systems for Project Management (6-513)

Registration dates for the 1969 spring semester evening program are January 18 through January 25 with no registration on Inauguration Day, January 20. Hours are 11:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday; 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., on Saturdays. Registration is at the Patio, first floor of the Administration Building at 14th and Independence, S.W., Washington, D.C. Classes will begin the week of January 27.

Persons interested in Graduate School correspondence courses can obtain catalogs and information by writing to: Correspondence Program, Graduate School, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

A total of 17,957 students registered during 1967-68 in the evening, correspondence, and special (day) programs of the USDA Graduate School. Of this total 2,591 were USDA employees.

New USDA Publication

A fact-filled yearbook on American agriculture, "Agricultural Statistics, 1968," is a recent USDA release.

The 600-page publication provides detailed information on agricultural production, prices, supplies, costs, and income. Tables are included on land use, farm ownership, farm workers, price support operations, and nutritive value and consumption of food.

The yearbook is available for \$2.75 from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

FORESTS, FOOD, AND FORM ARE FILMSTRIP FEATURES

Agricultural economics, gardening, beautification, civil defense, conservation, the consumer, farming, food, forestry, 4-H, home economics, housing—these are among the many subjects covered by slide sets and filmstrips prepared by the USDA Office of Information. They are helpful information tools in presenting and explaining some of the Department's programs before such audiences as civic and farm groups, students—and USDA employees.

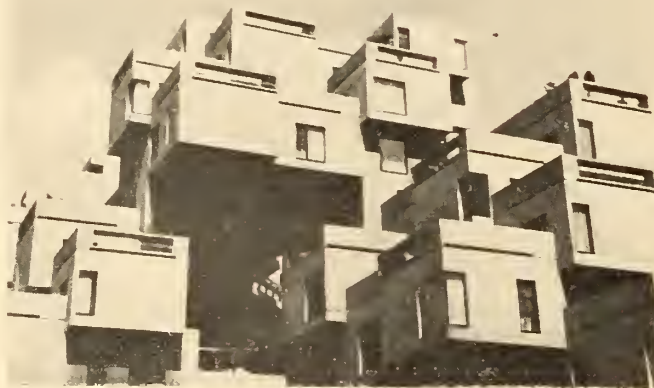
A new slide set/filmstrip catalog, released this month by the Office of Information, lists the variety of visual materials now available. A copy of the catalog (MP 1107) will be sent to most USDA offices. If your office does not receive one by February 1, you may get a copy by writing to: Photography Division, Office of Information, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

Here's a preview of three new presentations . . .



FOOD VALUE STRETCHERS (C-152, released 1968. Slide set or filmstrip, \$5.50). Designed to show families how to use some of the USDA-donated foods—especially evaporated milk—in preparing good meals. Five recipes using evaporated milk and other donated foods accompany this show.

DESIGN IS EVERYWHERE (A-41, released 1968. 69 frames. Slide set, \$8.00). Introduces the elements of design to help people become aware of and see design in their everyday surroundings. Prepared by the Federal Extension Service for use by local leaders, home economists, extension groups, and 4-H clubs. Photo: Habitat, Expo 67, Montreal.



FORESTS FOR ALL (C-140, released 1968. 60 frames, slide set, or filmstrip, \$6.50). Adapted from a presentation by the Chief of the Forest Service, Edward P. Cliff, at the 58th Western Forest Conference, Seattle, Wash. The set explains that with wise management of our forest resources, we can both use them and conserve them for the future as well.



FOR 16 YEARS the Forest Service has managed the forestry program at the Atomic Energy Commission's Savannah River Plant near Aiken, S.C. Recently, the 100 millionth pine seedling was planted at the AEC installation. In ceremonies marking the occasion, Regional Forester T. A. Schlapfer of Atlanta (right) presented the seedling for planting to Savannah River's Nat Stetson.

AWARDS

High honors were recently awarded to four Agricultural Research Service men for outstanding contributions and achievements in their fields. These include:

DR. CHARLES O. WILLITS, scientist at the Eastern utilization research laboratory, Wyndmoor, Pa., who was awarded a Distinguished Service Award by the National Maple Sirup Council. He also received special honors from the Pennsylvania State Maple Producers Association Council and the Vermont Maple Industry Council.

DR. PAUL F. SMITH, Crops Research Division, Orlando, Fla., who was named a Fellow in the American Society for Horticultural Science.

GEORGE FOSTER, Transportation and Facilities Division, Lafayette, Ind., who was named a Fellow in the American Society of Agricultural Engineers.

DR. DONALD L. BRAKENSIECK, Soil and Water Conservation Research Division, Beltsville, Md., who was given special honor for the second straight year by the American Society of Agricultural Engineers for his authorship of an outstanding technical paper.

* * * * *

ROBERT B. TOOTELL, Governor of the Farm Credit Administration, was recently honored by the Nation's farm magazine editors. He was named to receive the 22d annual Distinguished Service Award of the American Agricultural Editors Association. The award, given for leading and significant contributions to American agriculture, recognized Tootell's 15-year leadership of FCA during which time the Government-supervised cooperative Farm Credit System has been "instrumental in broadening the supply of available agricultural credit."

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 16, 1969

Vol. XXVIII No. 2

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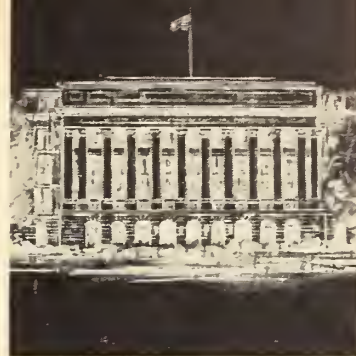
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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVIII NO. 3
JAN. 30, 1969



UNDER
SECRETARY
CAMPBELL

THE NEW UNDER SECRETARY of the Department of Agriculture, J. Phil Campbell, Jr., is a native of Athens, Ga., and the son of a pioneer agricultural family. A graduate of the College of Agriculture, University of Georgia, Mr. Campbell completed his studies while operating his family's dairy and cotton farm near Athens. He continued to operate the farm until 1941 when he volunteered for service with the Army Air Corps. In 1948, he was elected to the Georgia General Assembly. He served in the legislature for 6 years, 4 as Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee. In 1954, he was elected Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture, a position he held for four terms, until his appointment as Under Secretary of Agriculture. Mr. Campbell served as a member of two committees to advise the Secretary of Agriculture—the National Wholesome Meat Inspection Advisory Committee and the National Hog Cholera Eradication Advisory Committee. In addition, he was co-chairman of a special eight-man State-Federal task force made up of Food and Drug Administration officials and State Commissioners of Agriculture. He is a former secretary-treasurer of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture and a past member of that organization's Executive Committee.



ASSISTANT
SECRETARY
PALMBY

CLARENCE D. PALMBY, new Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and Commodity Credit Corporation, has spent his entire adult life in agricultural service—in production, agriculture leadership activities, and program administration. Since 1940, when he graduated with distinction from the University of Minnesota, Mr. Palmbly has operated a general farm near Garden City, Minn. He has held offices in county and State farm organizations and has served as Chairman of the Minnesota Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation State Committee. He served as an administrator with USDA's Commodity Stabilization Service in Washington from 1956 until 1961 when he became Executive Vice President of the U.S. Feed Grains Council. The new Assistant Secretary is a recognized authority on the grain, feed, and livestock industries in Europe, Japan, and the Far East. He has traveled extensively and frequently in those areas. Mr. Palmbly was born in Todd County, Minn., Feb. 22, 1916.

SECRETARY HARDIN GREETES EMPLOYEES

Memorandum To All Employees

It is my very real pleasure to greet you . . . the men and women who will be sharing with me my new responsibilities as Secretary of Agriculture.

Our goal is a mutual one: We will strive to improve the position of the agricultural producer and his business neighbors in rural America and to wipe out hunger and improve the nutritional standards of our nation. In pursuit of this we will carry out as effectively as we can all the many responsibilities given to the Department by the Congress in service to the American people.

If our goal is to be achieved it will require the dedicated talents of each of us as individuals and the collective efforts of all of us as a group. It will require that we think and plan thoughtfully and that we act wisely.

We will want also to listen . . . for it will be our purpose to seek the best judgment and recommendations from those outside of the Federal establishment; from agricultural and business leaders and from our colleges and universities.

President Nixon, in his Inaugural Address, summarized very well what should be our attitude toward the future:

"As we reach toward our hopes, our task is to build on what has gone before—not turning away from the old, but turning toward the new."

I know many of you already. I am looking forward to getting to know as many of the rest of you as I possibly can in the months ahead.

Clifford M. Hardin
SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE



DR. CLIFFORD M. HARDIN
SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

Dr. Clifford Morris Hardin is the Nation's 17th Secretary of Agriculture.

Before he was chosen by President Nixon to serve in the Cabinet post, the new Secretary was Chancellor of the University of Nebraska, a post he held since July 1, 1954.

He went to Nebraska from Michigan State University where he was Dean of the School of Agriculture and where he had served 4 years as director of the experiment station and its extensive research program. He joined the faculty at Michigan State in 1944 as professor and chairman of agricultural economics. From 1941 to 1944 he was a member of the faculty in agricultural economics at the University of Wisconsin.

Under Dr. Hardin's leadership, the University of Nebraska experienced its greatest period of growth. Enrollment, about 30,000 in the fall of 1968, is about four times what it was in 1954. Substantial additions were made to the physical plant and several programs were inaugurated, including continuing education, cooperative aid to higher education in Turkey which resulted in establishment of the new Ataturk University, technical assistance for agricul-

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

ture in Colombia, and a Latin American and International Studies program.

In 1960, Secretary Hardin served as president of the Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges, and in 1961 was chairman of the Association's Executive Committee.

He is a member of the board of the National Science Foundation, a member and trustee of the Rockefeller Foundation, and a member of the executive committee of the Council on Higher Education in the American Republics.

In addition, he is a former director and chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, Omaha branch, and a former director of the American Council on Education.

He also serves on the board of directors and is trustee of several Nebraska companies.

Secretary Hardin was born October 9, 1915, on his parents' farm near Knightstown, Ind. While still a youth, he assumed a large responsibility for operating the farm. He went to Purdue University on a 4-H Club scholarship, earning his baccalaureate and graduate degrees from Purdue in 1937 and 1939 and his Ph. D. in 1941.

He is a member of Sigma Xi, national honorary science scholastic society, and has received honorary degrees from the National University of Colombia in South America, Purdue University, and Creighton University of Omaha.

Secretary Hardin and his wife, the former *Martha Love Wood* of West Lafayette, Ind., are the parents of three daughters and two sons. The family includes *Dr. and Mrs. Larry W. Wood*, Iowa City, Iowa; *Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Milligan*, Lincoln, Nebr.; *Nancy*, a senior at Kansas University, Lawrence, Kans.; *Mr. and Mrs. Clifford W. Hardin*, Dallas, Tex.; and *James*, 10.

School Lunches Receive Variety of Foods

The Nation's schools can be assured of at least \$288 million in donated foods from the Department of Agriculture to help expand and improve school food service during the 1968-69 school year. This is an increase over the \$276 million worth of these foods provided in the 1967-68 school year.

So far this school year, USDA has purchased or contracted for more than 238 million pounds of frozen ground beef, butter, cheese, lard or shortening, nonfat dry milk, peanut butter, and frozen turkeys for distribution to schools. Still more will be bought and allocated during the year. Schools may also obtain as

Chemist Nominated For New Award

Dr. Odette Shotwell, a research chemist with the Agricultural Research Service, is USDA's nominee for a recently established Civil Service Commission award—the Outstanding Handicapped Federal Employee of the Year.

The annual award will recognize individual achievements and will increase awareness of the contributions being made by the handicapped in Federal service. Departments and agencies may each nominate one employee a year. Selection of the outstanding employee will be made from among 10 finalists chosen by a committee of government and non-government officials. All 10 finalists will be honored at a ceremony in March in Washington, D.C.

The achievements of USDA's nominee spread across several segments of organic chemistry and benefit her community as well as the lives of her friends and acquaintances.

Polio contracted in her childhood left Dr. Shotwell with a severe, painful paralysis which makes walking in an erect position impossible. Nevertheless, she attended college and graduate school, receiving a B.S. degree from Montana State College and M.S. and Ph. D. degrees from the University of Illinois.

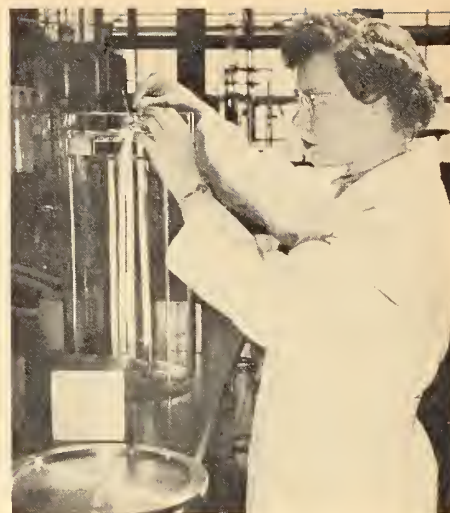
Dr. Shotwell, a native of Denver, Colo., entered Federal service as a research chemist at the Northern Utilization Research and Development Division, Peoria, Ill., in 1948, shortly after earning her Ph. D. She has worked there since.

During her first assignment, which lasted 12 years, she was responsible for the discovery of two new antibiotics and played an important role in the discovery of two others.

Dr. Shotwell then headed a team of scientists which studied the chemistry of Japanese beetle hemolymph—components in insects' body fluid corresponding to blood in higher animals. The work, the first such investigation, was part of a broad project to develop, as an

much as they can effectively use of such foods as dry beans, bulgur, corn grits, cornmeal, flour, rolled oats, rice, and rolled wheat. USDA acquires these foods through its price support and surplus-removal activities.

USDA has also bought canned fruits and vegetables and frozen poultry and meat specifically for the National School Lunch Program during this school year. These special-purchase foods total 228 million pounds, worth some \$45 million.



DR. ODETTIE SHOTWELL is USDA's nominee for Outstanding Handicapped Federal Employee of the Year, a new Civil Service Commission award.

insecticide, a bacterial disease infecting Japanese beetles.

Since 1966, Dr. Shotwell has continued her work on insect hemolymph as well as investigating mycotoxins. In the latter work she has made important contributions to knowledge of aflatoxin, a cancer-producing toxin produced by certain molds which sometimes grow in stored cereals and cereal products. For her work in this field, she was appointed to the Aflatoxin Subcommittee of the American Society of Oil Chemists and was asked to be an associate referee to evaluate methods of determining mycotoxins in cereal grains for the Association of Official Analytical Chemists.

Throughout the years Dr. Shotwell has been active in community affairs. She has served with great effect as co-chairman of the Peoria NAACP education committee. She is consultant on education for an inner city program of the Peoria Area Council of Churches; a past president of the Peoria Chapter of the League of Women Voters; and a board member of a new center for the arts and sciences. In addition, she is past chairman of the Truth Corps, an informational branch of the Mayor's Commission on Human Relations, and treasurer of her church.

Besides giving a boost to school lunches for about 20 million youngsters, the foods will help to reach almost 400,000 children needing school breakfasts.

Federal cash and food aid through the 22-year-old National School Lunch Program, administered by the Consumer and Marketing Service, covers about 20 percent of the program costs. Children's payments, together with State and local contributions, make up the remainder.

PENN SOIL PROJECT— A MULTI-COUNTY SUCCESS

If all rural America shares a common commodity, it is diversity. Resource Conservation and Development Projects, such as the three-county Penn Soil Project in northwestern Pennsylvania, are creative operations that allow for diversity.

The particular resources, the handicaps, the people, and the potentials of an area are the ingredients that spur or impede economic growth. And progress—in solid terms of developing and restoring the natural resources and building the economy—is being made in the counties of Crawford, Venango, and Mercer. One of two RC&D projects in operation in Pennsylvania, the Penn Soil Project, is projecting much of its future growth on the probability of soon becoming a major recreation area for the population centers of Pittsburgh and Erie, Pa., and Youngstown, Ohio.

Water is the primary resource—much of it a resource requiring renovation of watersheds and streams and pollution control. Planned structural improvements are underway in some of the project area's 180 larger water impoundment sites. Flood control dams or even larger multi-purpose reservoirs which will also serve recreational purposes are being constructed.

Strip-mined areas are being regraded, reforested, or reseeded to grass and legumes to control runoff. Labor needs for this project provide seasonal employment for retired or unemployed rural people or for Boy Scouts. A conservation-education center is in the early stages of development on an ideal site adjoining the rapidly developing Sandy Creek State Park. These are but a few of the many far-sighted concepts being turned into realities.

The county commissioners, bankers, businessmen, and residents deserve credit for the successes gradually being achieved in the Penn Soil Project.

Rollin N. Swank, project coordinator, is a young soil conservationist with a substantial background of experience with the Soil Conservation Service. He helps the project sponsors develop their program with the assistance of other Federal, State, and local manpower and technical services and funds as they are needed and/or available.

State planners and officials, too, are thinking of extending area planning in an age when counties are seeing that area planning and development bring economic growth far outweighing achievements by strictly provincial efforts. Penn Soil RC&D is a convincing argument for more multi-county planning and resource development.



THE MERCER COUNTY Technical Action Panel meets regularly and encourages attendance by people working on community development programs. Above, County Agent Leslie Firth explains aspects of cooperative extension work that contribute to area planning and improvement. At left, a private developer, with technical assistance from the Soil Conservation Service, established this golf course which substantially improved a rural setting in the Penn Soil RC&D area. He intends to build a community overlooking much of the open space created by the golf course.



(Above) SANDY CREEK DAM, near completion, will back up water to form a lake 9 miles long—the beautiful focal point around which a State park will be developed. (At right) This site, adjacent to the Sandy Creek State Park, has been purchased for the development of a conservation-education center.



Planting Trees Is Woman's Work

Crews of women have been employed to plant thousands of trees and to burn acres of logging slash in the rugged 295,000-acre Wise River Ranger District of western Montana's Beaverhead National Forest. For the past 2 years, distaff inhabitants of the tiny hamlet of Wise River (pop. 70) have literally taken over these jobs, traditionally left to the men.

What is more, according to Forest Service officers, work done by the women equals or even surpasses the work of male crews.

The part-time, seasonal jobs filled by the women are advertised through regular channels and applications come from both men and women. Male applicants, however, have been markedly unenthusiastic about accepting such "occasional" work, frequently subject to short-notice cancellation because of inclement weather. The women, most of whom are housewives supplementing family incomes, welcome the part-time work. Pay is according to Wage Board rates and the job-duration is generally for 2 or 3 weeks in spring and fall.

When extra crews are needed, *Nevin T. Guderian*, Acting Ranger of the Wise River Ranger District, gets on the telephone and calls women from his list of applicants. An average crew numbers eight to 10 women; average age is 35.

Guderian reports that young trees planted by crews of women in the spring of 1967 and 1968 showed an 80 to 85 percent survival.

"The high survival rate of the young trees must be attributed to the 'tender, loving care' the women gave the seedlings in planting," he suggests.

"In addition to careful and effective planting, these women planted more than 500 trees a day—a rate worthy of experienced tree planters. Weather conditions were miserable when these women planted the trees, but the philosophy of the women was 'These trees must go in the ground, come rain, snow, or shine.'"

The crew of women used to burn logging slash was reported to be agile and safety conscious.

"They followed instructions well and accomplished the same production we would expect of a crew of men," a Forest Service fire control officer reports.

Women also collected the major share of the pine cones this past year on the District. These cones provide the tree seeds used at the Forest Service tree nursery.



AS IF KEEPING HOUSE isn't hard enough to handle, these young housewives are working part-time to reseed a burned-out tract of land in the Beaverhead National Forest, Montana.

Food Donations for Needy Persons Up 44 Percent

Domestic food donations by USDA came to 404.4 million pounds in the first 3 months of fiscal 1969 (July–Sept. 1968). This is slightly more than the poundage donated the same months of fiscal 1968.

Food donations for needy families during this period amounted to 230.2 million pounds and cost \$44.8 million—44 percent and 72 percent above the respective figures for the same period a year earlier. More and better food accounts for these increases. Donations per person per month increased to more than 36 pounds and several new foods appeared on the donation list.

Other USDA food donations during July–September 1968 included 141.6 million pounds to schools, and 32.6 million to charitable institutions. The school total is in addition to foods purchased by Consumer and Marketing Service especially for schools in USDA's National School Lunch Program.

In September, 3.5 million needy persons in family units benefited from the increased food allotments. Another 2.6 million persons took part in USDA's Food Stamp Program, receiving more than \$17 million worth of extra food-buying power. At the end of September 1968, 6.1 million persons were benefiting from the two family food-help programs compared with about 5 million a year earlier.

Discrimination Violates P&S Act

Discrimination in the furnishing of stockyard services or facilities "... because of race, religion, color, or national origin ..." is a violation of the Packers and Stockyards Act.

The announcement came in a Statement of General Policy of USDA's interpretation of the P&S Act. The Act is a fair trade practices law which promotes and maintains fair and open competition in the marketing of livestock, poultry, and meat.

The Packers and Stockyards Administration said the statement extends to "establishing rules or regulations at the stockyard" which show prejudice against persons using the services or facilities.

Services and facilities involved "include, but are not limited to, those furnished for observing, selling, weighing, or other handling of livestock, the restaurant, the restrooms, drinking fountains, and lounge accommodations."

P&S said instances of discrimination may result in issuance of a complaint against a stockyard owner or market agency for violating the Act.

PLENTIFUL FOODS

USDA's February list. Plentifuls are: *Broiler-fryers, green split peas, pork, canned salmon, potatoes, onions, canned tomatoes and tomato products, canned and frozen sweet corn, fresh oranges, fresh grapefruit, canned grapefruit juice, avocados, and dried prunes.*



REMOVE TOYS..
before using PESTICIDES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

VOL. XXVIII NO. 4
FEB. 13, 1969

Conference Attracts Top Crop of Economic Analysts

Sponsored by the Economic Research Service, the 1969 Outlook Conference will be held Feb. 17-19 in the Jefferson Auditorium, Washington, D.C., and will attract hundreds of economists and agribusiness specialists from universities, Extension, and private industry.

Every year, American agriculture becomes more closely bound up with the triumphs and tribulations of the rest of the world: An inflationary spiral in the United States jacks up prices of tractors and chemicals; the world monetary crisis threatens exports of feed grains to Europe; world crop prospects affect world wheat prices; international developments may increase acreage allotments for major U.S. crops; the Food Stamp Program increases food consumption in poverty areas around the country.

Hundreds of interacting factors like these affect the modern farmer's markets—and the agricultural outlook. So in recent years, the job of annual Agricultural Outlook Conferences has grown bigger and tougher.

The Outlook Conferences have had to

look more and more carefully at non-farm developments in arriving at price and income prospects. In fact, this year's Conference is being held several months later than usual primarily to give greater emphasis to general economic trends and the policies of the new administration.

What's ahead for business and government spending? Will the pressures of inflation increase or decrease? Will the world monetary crisis continue? Will consumer incomes rise? Will consumers keep on spending or start saving? What are the commercial export prospects, and what about the world's food situation?

All of these questions have to be weighed before we can arrive at meaningful appraisals of prospects for U.S. agriculture in the year: What will happen to farm income? To commodity prices? Will the technological revolution on our farms continue to bring rapid changes in productivity, number, and size of farms, and changes in rural life? What will be the regional changes in farm population and farm organization?

The opening session will set the general scene—the national and international economic outlook, agricultural trade prospects, and the world food situation.

Other sessions will examine the dynamics of rural life today, and the prospects and patterns rural residents can expect in the future. The farm programs and their probable impacts on output and on farm prices and public costs will be discussed, along with the outlook for agribusiness, and the general prospects for U.S. farmers.

Family living session will look at new programs in housing and nutrition for both rural and urban residents, and their probable impact on rural life, farm markets, and farm income.

Finally, the commodity sessions will have their usual important place on the program—since the basic purpose of the Outlook Conference is to translate all the variables into the outlook for livestock products, feed grains, wheat, soybeans, fruits and vegetables, cotton, and other farm products.



MRS. COST REDUCTION, USDA

★★ For February 1969 ★★

MRS. INGA Y. STOOD is batting .600! In 11 years: 20 employee suggestions submitted—12 adopted! Mrs. Stood, with the Consumer and Marking Service in Chicago, is a valuable member of the USDA team. Her suggestion record is excellent especially when compared to the 1968 USDA suggestion rate of 6.3 submitted and 1.7 adopted per 100 employees. Through the Incentive Awards Program, Mrs. Stood has received \$245 for tangible savings from her suggestions, plus three \$150 cash awards, and a Quality Step Increase as a result of seven Outstanding Performance Ratings. Five promotions have moved her from a GS-2 Clerk Steno to a GS-7 Property Utilization Assistant. She recently received a commendation from the Secretary for her outstanding contribution to the Cost Reduction effort. Mrs. Stood's latest idea can be used anywhere property record cards are maintained. When a large volume of similar items are received and individual property cards are needed, a stencil is prepared. Basic information needed on each property record card is typed on the stencil three times. Copies sufficient to list the separate items are run on a duplicating machine. Three cards are then cut from each sheet. In one application of Mrs. Stood's method, 5¾ hours were saved in preparing 232 property cards for weight scales received in her office. If this idea can be used for property or other types of records in your organization, contact your employee suggestions coordinator. The Employee Suggestions Program is a constant source of cost reduction and operations improvement ideas. We need more people like Inga Stood who doesn't stop with just one or two suggestions. Keep your ideas coming!

BROTHERHOOD WEEK, Feb. 16-23

REA CREATES NEW JOBS

Rural electric and telephone systems financed by the Rural Electrification Administration helped to create at least 31,000 new jobs in rural America during fiscal year 1968. This figure is based on a survey of rural areas development activities of 57 percent of the 1,900 REA-financed systems.

The survey showed that 637 REA-assisted projects started in fiscal 1968 included 78 in agriculture, 44 in forestry, 131 in recreation, 206 in community facilities, and 178 for other purposes including commercial and industrial.

In addition, the survey disclosed that directors and employees of many electric and telephone organizations are serving on local economic development committees.

REA borrowers have assisted more than 3,300 commercial, industrial, and community facilities projects and have helped create a total of 247,000 jobs since the RAD program began in mid-1961.



FRENCH AMBASSADOR M. Charles Lucet (right) presents L. J. McMillan, IADS, with Chevalier du Merite Agricole. Behind McMillan is Ray Ioanes, FAS Administrator, who accepted same honor for R. L. Beukenkamp, FAS.

DECORATED FOR HELP ON FRENCH MOVIE

Two USDA officials were recently honored by the French Government for their contribution to the production of a special motion picture soon to be shown throughout France.

R. L. Beukenkamp, Foreign Agricultural Service, and L. J. McMillan, International Agricultural Development Service, received medals naming them Chevalier du Merite Agricole. French Ambassador M. Charles Lucet made the presentations at a special ceremony held in Washington, D.C. Ray Ioanes, FAS Administrator, accepted the award for Beukenkamp who was on assignment in Europe.

The Chevalier du Merite Agricole, given for achievements in the field of agriculture, is one of the highest civilian awards conferred by the Government of France.

A motion picture crew from the French Ministry of Agriculture spent several weeks in the United States during 1967 filming various aspects of the livestock industry. McMillan arranged a schedule and travel details that took the crew to Maryland, Virginia, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Texas, California, Colorado, and Washington, D.C. Beukenkamp accompanied the crew as interpreter and technical advisor and also appears in the film.

The film, which is in color, is entitled "A View of the U.S. Livestock Industry."

Directed by Armand Deleule, head of the Agriculture Ministry's Motion Picture Service, the 44-minute movie is designed to promote improved livestock production in France.

About 80 percent of the food for the National School Lunch Program is bought by local officials from local suppliers. C&MS reports these purchases amounted to about \$1 billion last school year.

Holstein Designated Chief Hearing Examiner

The appointment of Benjamin M. Holstein as Chief of the Office of Hearing Examiners was recently announced by the Department.

Holstein, a hearing examiner since 1961, succeeds G. Osmond Hyde who retired after 42 years of government service.

Prior to becoming a hearing examiner, Holstein was assistant to the Assistant General Counsel of the Department. He was engaged principally in representing the Department in disciplinary proceedings under the Commodity Exchange Act and the Packers and Stockyards Act, working on matters pending before the President's Conference on Administrative Procedure, and revising departmental rules of practice.

Holstein is a native of Milwaukee, Wis., and served in the Army during World War I. He did promotion and advertising work in the publication and trade press field from 1923-1931, and then became a student at Marquette University. He holds a J.D. degree from Georgetown Law School and an A.B. degree from George Washington University.

The Office of Hearing Examiners conducts public hearings and performs related duties under USDA-administered laws which regulate the marketing of agricultural commodities and products. Such hearings include rulemaking proceedings, marketing order contests, disciplinary proceedings, and ratemaking.

Unique Work in Zambia

A severe shortage of qualified manpower in Zambia prompted a unique agreement between that South Central African country and the Agency for International Development. Under the agreement about 15 U.S. specialists are filling operational positions within the Zambian Government's civil service.

USDA is furnishing four specialists: Horticulturist Donald Coe and agricultural engineer James Wadsworth, both with Federal Extension Service; credit specialist Ed Iddings, Farmers Home Administration; and soils scientist Thomas Yeager, Soil Conservation Service.

These first-of-a-kind positions differ markedly from the usual "advisor-with-counterpart" role of USDA/AID positions. The men work as administrators and branch chiefs, directly supervising local people in operating programs run by the Zambian Government. In addition, they train local personnel for administrative and other operational positions. The Zambian Government reim-



ON THE HOOF—This wild buffalo is solidly penned, but he's still on the hoof, healthy and vigorous. Dr. Gerald A. Fuller of the Consumer and Marketing Service keeps a safe distance as he gives in-the-pen inspection before slaughter.

Inspectors Aren't Buffaloed

The American buffalo, once almost extinct, are roaming the Plains again, thanks to wildlife experts at the Department of Interior and other wildlife conservationists.

What's more, buffalo meat is back on the menu.

Wild buffalo have become so abundant there is danger of overgrazing grasslands set aside for them. Their numbers are far short of the once-estimated 60 million, but there are enough so a few can be slaughtered each year for public sale.

During November and December the Department of Interior slaughtered 175 buffalo at the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Cache, Okla. Officials at the Refuge asked the Consumer Protection Program of the Consumer and Marketing Service to help inspect the meat for wholesomeness to meet all requirements of the Wholesome Meat Act of 1967.

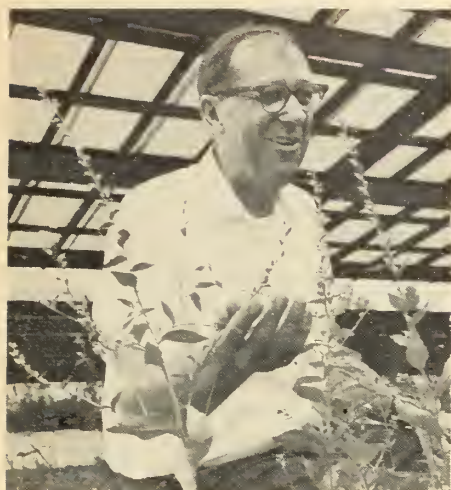
Drs. R. W. Russum and F. H. Shimp of the CPP office in Oklahoma City worked all summer on the project with Julian A. Howard, Refuge manager. They redesigned coolers to prevent any possibility of spoilage and to provide a better product for the consumers. Dr. Gerald A. Fuller and other USDA meat inspectors were on the job for thorough inspections before, during, and after slaughter—just as at any commercial meat packing plant.

If you didn't have your order in for some of this buffalo meat, it's too late now. The supply was quickly exhausted.

burses USDA for part of the salary of the four specialists.

The men, all of whom have had extensive experience in USDA overseas programs, are presently at work in or around the capital city of Lusaka. They began their 2-year Zambian employment in the fall of 1968.

DR. KROCHMAL AND NATURE'S MEDICINE CHEST



DR. ARNOLD KROCHMAL

Dr. Arnold Krochmal often combs the Appalachian woods to replenish his supply of a plant called *Lobelia inflata*, or Indian tobacco. Back in his lab, he removes the seeds, dries them, puts them into his germinator, and lets them grow.

For Dr. Krochmal, these trips between the woods and the lab are not unusual. He is a research botanist and project leader at the Forest Service's Northeastern Forest Experiment Station Laboratory at Berea, Ky. His project is the study of medicinal plants, like the Indian tobacco. The project is maintained in cooperation with the University of Kentucky, Auburn University, and the University of Mississippi.

Though the use of natural plants for healing has long been wrapped in superstition, many plants of the forest do have medicinal qualities. Roots, bark, stems, leaves, flowers, fruit, and seeds of certain species are much in demand today. Of the \$2.5 billion worth of pharmaceuticals consumed in the United States in 1967, \$300 million worth were made from natural forest plants.

The modern doctor daily writes an average of eight prescriptions for drugs of natural origin. The ice cream dealer, the textile and toilet manufacturer—literally the butcher, the baker, and the candlestick maker—find natural forest plants indispensable in their trades.

Many of the most valuable medicinal plants have such complex molecules that they cannot be duplicated in a test tube or manufactured synthetically. In addition, propagation—both in the forest and in artificial culture—is a major problem. Many of the plants are difficult—some virtually impossible—to propagate. Conservationists fear that entire strains might be depleted if propagation remains unsuccessful. This is the problem Dr. Krochmal is tackling.

Dr. Krochmal is currently publishing an illustrated manual of medicinal plants in Appalachia, where at least 125 marketable species grow. The manual will provide information to local residents who want to supplement incomes by gathering medicinal forest plants. He encourages this practice although urging collectors to leave enough plants in each locale to conserve plant population for future years.

Krochmal Is Man of Many Talents

The atmosphere in Dr. Krochmal's lab reflects his experiences as an adventurer, world-traveller, philosopher, writer, educator, and humanitarian. Name some of the more exciting places in the world—Greece, Afghanistan, Honduras, Thailand, Brazil, Surinam, Barbados, the Virgin Islands—and he has lived there.

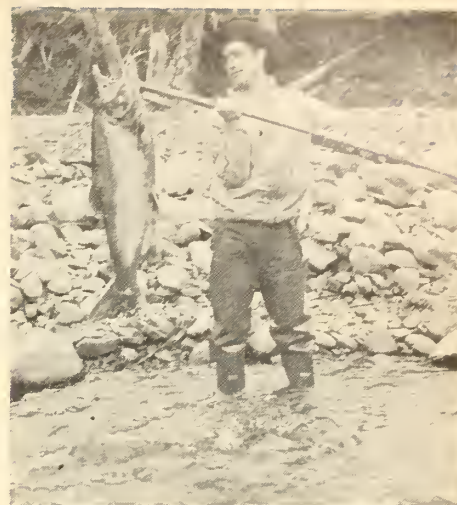
Dr. Krochmal served with USDA in the Virgin Islands where he developed growing and marketing methods for papaya, tapioca, pineapples, cassava, and African yams. He advised the governments of Jamaica and Montserrat on fruit and vegetable plantings. He toured the world as an advisor for the Agency for International Development.

In the field of education, Dr. Krochmal taught as a Fulbright Professor in Greece, served as Chairman of the Horticulture Department of the Pan-American Agricultural School, Tegucigalpa, Honduras, and was on the faculty of the College of the Virgin Islands. In addition, he has taught at colleges and universities in New Mexico, New York, Georgia, Arizona, Wisconsin, and Kentucky.

Today, as an unpaid consultant for Volunteers for International Technical Assistance, Schenectady, N.Y., he helps answer inquiries on agricultural practices from Peace Corps volunteers, missionaries, and foreign technicians.

Dr. Krochmal's humanitarian interests continue at Berea where Appalachia poverty surrounds him. He is a Cub Scout leader and, when time permits, works with Save the Children Fund. He is helping set up a woodworking shop in a nearby community and recently helped several residents organize a self-supporting corsage industry, using only natural forest materials such as acorns, miniature pine cones, chestnut hulls, and milkweed pods for the lapel ornaments.

A native of the Bronx, Dr. Krochmal earned his B.S. degree from North Carolina State. He completed work on his Ph. D. at Cornell after serving as an Army Staff Officer during World War II.



RICH ROSVALL, Forest Service helitack foreman, retrieves a dead King salmon from Horse Linto Creek during a spawned salmon count (called a cut count) in major streams of the Six Rivers National Forest in California. A cut count of salmon, which die shortly after spawning, is one method of gaining information on salmon production, location of spawning areas, and spawning dates. Each salmon is measured—this one was 43 inches in length—and checked for a tag. The sex and species, either King or silver in these streams, are recorded. The count is a joint effort of the Forest Service and the California Department of Fish and Game.

C&MS Has New Detective Team

Investigation of the sources of illnesses thought to be caused by meat or poultry is the job of a special team recently established by USDA.

Dr. John Spaulding, a veterinary toxicologist who has been with USDA since 1960, heads the team, known as the Toxicology Group. The team works within the Consumer and Marketing Service in conjunction with the Federal meat inspection program.

The Toxicology Group is alerted by field personnel or other sources whenever meat or poultry contamination is suspected to be the cause of a disease outbreak. As a single reporting and investigative point, the Group will cooperate with local public health agencies to speed identification of the product responsible, the amount of product involved, and the factors causing the disease. The team will then assemble and distribute information to enable Federal meat and poultry inspection personnel to minimize illnesses and protect consumers.

The Group will make in-depth analyses of outbreaks, tracing the cause and determining necessary steps to prevent any recurrence.

Other foods produced under voluntary C&MS inspection programs will also be checked when suspected as the cause of illness.

ARS Scientists Honored by ASA

Dr. Louis P. Reitz, agronomist with the Agricultural Research Service, was recently installed as president of the Crop Science Society of America. He assumed his office at the 60th annual meeting of the American Society of Agronomy held in New Orleans. The Crop Science Society of America and the Soil Science Society of America are autonomous organizations affiliated with ASA.

A graduate of Kansas State University, Dr. Reitz also holds degrees from the University of Nebraska and the University of Minnesota.

He joined USDA in 1946 in Nebraska and later served as regional coordinator of USDA wheat research for the Central Plains States.

In 1954 Dr. Reitz was named wheat investigations leader for the ARS Crops Research Division at Beltsville, Md., where he has prime responsibility for wheat improvement research across the country.

Other ARS scientists honored at the annual meeting included:

Dr. W. Doral Kemper, soil scientist stationed at Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, Colo., who received the ASA's 1968 Soil Science Award. Dr. Kemper is internationally recognized for his work in soil science research and as a physics teacher.

Dr. Hugh W. Bennett, research agronomist, Mississippi State University, State College, Miss.; Dr. Dayton L. Klingman, leader of weed investigations on grazing lands, Beltsville, Md.; Dr. Marion W. Pedersen, research agronomist, Utah State University, Logan, Utah; and Dr. Robert T. Ramage, research geneticist, University of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz., who were inducted as Fellows of the Society.

Sabrosky To Head Society

Dr. Curtis W. Sabrosky, an Agricultural Research Service entomologist, was elected President of the Entomological Society of America at a recent meeting in Dallas, Tex.

The Entomological Society is a professional organization of scientists concerned with the study of both undesirable and beneficial insects.

Dr. Sabrosky is director of the ARS Systematic Entomology Laboratory, which is in the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C. The laboratory collaborates with the Smithsonian Institution in identification and classification of the world's innumerable insect species.



THE FARM INDEX, monthly magazine published by the Economic Research Service, recently added three Awards of Merit to its editorial "trophies." The awards came out of the 19th Award Exhibit of the Art Directors Club of Metropolitan Washington which featured 200 entries pre-judged from over 1,000 as the best advertising and editorial art in the area during 1968. The ERS periodical won its citations for cover art, editorial design, and editorial illustration. Staff members pictured above (left to right) are: Audrey Ames Cook, editor; Geraldine Schumacher, assistant editor; Stan Baer, Tracy Zacharias, and Ed Dever, staff editors; and Bernadette Richardson, secretary—all with the Office of Management Services, Division of Information.

Courageous Act Cited

William J. Baden, an employee of the Sequoia National Forest in California, recently received a citation for his heroic actions in rescuing an injured pilot from a crashed and burning helicopter.

Baden was on assignment fighting a forest fire in California's Angeles National Forest last summer when he saw the helicopter crash. He rushed to the crash site and directed crews of three Forest Service fire tankers to direct streams of water on the flaming wreckage and on himself. Despite the intense heat and the danger of a fuel tank explosion at any moment, Baden entered the wreckage, cut the unconscious pilot loose, and carried him clear. The pilot later died from injuries suffered in the crash.

For his courageous act, Baden received a certificate of merit and a \$500 check from the Forest Service.



JEROME F. DEFOURNEAUX (right), Chief, Administrative Division, New Orleans Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service Command Office, was recently presented the New Orleans Federal Executive Association Distinguished Service Award for 1968. This annual award is presented to outstanding Federal civilian employees engaged in executive and administrative work. Defourneaux was cited for his leadership and direction which resulted in an efficient, harmonious, and coordinated operation of the Administrative Division. Presenting the award is Dr. Homer L. Hitt, Chancellor, Louisiana State University, New Orleans.

VIP Treatment for VIG'S

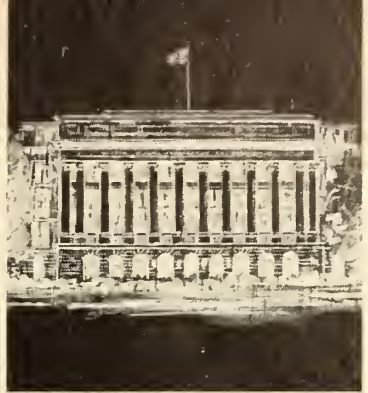
Plant quarantine inspectors helped expedite clearance for three babies who arrived recently at the Seattle-Tacoma Airport. The babies, accompanied by two nurses, were gorillas flown from Holland to a Seattle zoo. It was the first

time in the experiences of Inspector Ray T. Mitsudo that animals were cleared before passengers.

Inspectors removed tangerines, a banana, and an apple from "personal effects" of the VIG's (very important gorillas) before they were allowed entry.

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VOL. XXVIII NO. 5
FEB. 27, 1969

USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

Hansen Appointed Deputy Under Secretary



G. B. HANSEN

George B. Hansen, former U.S. Representative from Idaho, has been appointed as Deputy Under Secretary for Congressional Relations. Announcement of the appointment was made by Secretary Hardin on behalf

of President Nixon.

Hansen, a resident of Pocatello, Idaho, served two terms in the House from 1965 to 1968. He was the Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate last November and also was a Senate candidate in 1962.

Born in Tetonia, Idaho, Sept. 14, 1930, Hansen graduated from Ricks College, Rexburg, Idaho, in 1956 with honors in history and Russian. He did graduate work at Idaho State University and graduated in accounting from Grimms Business College.

In 1961-62 he served as mayor of Alameda, Idaho, and from 1962 to 1965 was city commissioner of Pocatello. He served as director of the Idaho Municipal League from 1961 to 1963.

Hansen is a former officer in Bannock County Republican Central Committee and the Bannock County Young Republicans Club.

He is an Air Force veteran and is an officer in the Naval Reserve.

SNOWMOBILERS FLOCK TO NATIONAL FORESTS

Fastest growing winter sports activity in the National Forests is snowmobiling. This versatile and exhilarating sport has caught the public's fancy, much as skiing did back in the 1930's.

Impact of the snowmobiling on the National Forests has been enormous. Areas once considered inaccessible have developed into winter playgrounds. Ad-

PRESIDENT RICHARD M. NIXON was welcomed by Secretary Clifford M. Hardin when the Chief Executive recently visited USDA in Washington, D.C. During his visit the President addressed a large audience of USDA employees in Jefferson Auditorium. He told them he is encouraged by the tremendous interest and concern developing in the problem of hunger in the United States. He said that the Department of Agriculture has an "exciting opportunity" and "a challenge" to effectively and scientifically use the enormous productive agricultural capacity "which this Department has helped to build through the years" to attack the problems of hunger and of malnutrition. This responsibility, he said, is in addition to the primary and traditional role of USDA to see "that America's farmers receive their fair share of the increasing growth and wealth and productivity of this Nation." The President continued, "There is no department in this Government that will play a bigger role in seeing what kind of a Nation this is going to be than . . . this Department."



THOUSANDS OF ADVENTURERS are discovering winter wonderlands in the National Forests aboard snowmobiles. Here a couple, who might never have ventured into the National Forests had it not been for the snowmobiles, pauses to consult a map of trails in the Nicolet National Forest in Wisconsin.

ministering this use and providing for safety of users is proving a challenge to Forest Service recreation specialists.

In eastern National Forests, where the sport first took hold, more than 1,000 miles of trails have been developed and marked for snowmobile travel. Last year an estimated 1.3 million visitors spent 768,000 visitor days using snowmobiles on the Forests. Indications are that the

figures will be considerably higher this year.

In the past 6 years, snowmobile production has grown from a few hundred machines annually to more than 100,000.

Snowmobiles have opened up the snow country to millions of people of all ages and physical capabilities who never before attempted to venture into America's "winter wonderlands."

Lennartson Heads C&MS



R. W. Lennartson

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin has named Roy W. Lennartson to be Administrator of the Consumer and Marketing Service. As C&MS Administrator, Lennartson will head the agency in which he has served for most of his 32 years with USDA.

Lennartson is a veteran administrator with broad experience in marketing problems, both in domestic and international trade. For the past year and a half, he has been in the foreign marketing field as Associate Administrator for the Foreign Agricultural Service. He was transferred to this post under the Governmentwide Executive Assignment Program. Prior to the FAS assignment, Lennartson was Associate Administrator of C&MS for 8 years.

Lennartson was reared on a farm in northern Minnesota and was graduated from the University of Maryland. He joined the Department in 1936 as an agricultural economist with the Farm Credit Administration. After Army Service in World War II, he returned to USDA as Assistant Director of the Poultry Branch in what was then the Production and Marketing Administration. In 1951, he was promoted to Assistant Administrator for Marketing.

In 1953, Lennartson became Deputy Administrator of the newly organized Agricultural Marketing Service. He was appointed Associate Administrator of AMS in 1961 and held the same position in C&MS when that agency was formed in 1965.

During the course of his service, Lennartson has had extensive and detailed experience with all of the activities administered by C&MS.

AMERICANS SPEND 18 cents of each take-home dollar for food. In the late 1950's, they spent 21 cents; in the late 1940's, 25 cents.

"In pursuing our goals of full employment, better housing, excellence in education; rebuilding our cities and improving our rural areas; in protecting our environment and enhancing the quality of life; in all these and more, we will and must press urgently forward."

—Richard M. Nixon
Inaugural Address
January 20, 1969



SARA BECK, consumer education specialist, talks to consumer groups about the Federal meat and poultry inspection program. These presentations can be requested by contacting Miss Beck at the Information Division, Consumer and Marketing Service, Washington, D.C. 20250, or by contacting one of C&MS' area offices in New York, Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, and San Francisco.

SARA BECK HAS THE ANSWERS

"What's the difference between a product labeled 'Beef and Gravy' and one labeled 'Gravy and Beef'?"

"Can I take part in the making of USDA rules for meat and poultry products content and labeling?"

Sara Beck has the answers. She is a consumer education specialist with the Consumer and Marketing Service. It is her job to supply the answers to these and many more questions from consumers and their spokesmen about the Federal meat and poultry inspection program.

Miss Beck, who is based in Washington, D.C., reaches consumer representatives around the country by way of national, regional, and State meetings, as well as through radio, television, newspapers, and magazines. She schedules demonstrations and presentations before groups interested in the advantages of wholesome, sanitarily processed, and truthfully labeled meat and poultry products. These groups may include a meeting of a State consumer league, or a convention of home economists or food editors.

Miss Beck says she finds consumers keenly interested in the content and wholesomeness of meat and poultry products. They want to know how to read labels, how to select for economy, how to prepare these foods properly, and how to keep them safe for eating between the time they are bought and served.

Trained in home economics and communications and thoroughly versed in USDA's wealth of valuable food information, Miss Beck is well qualified to present the facts to all interests—the con-

HAMIL RETURNS AS REA ADMINISTRATOR

The appointment of David A. Hamil, Denver, Colo., as Administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration was recently announced by President Nixon. Hamil previously served as REA Administrator



D. A. HAMIL

under President Eisenhower from 1956 to 1961.

Prior to his appointment, Hamil was Executive Director of the Department of Institutions for the State of Colorado, a position he has held since 1963.

Since his college days, Hamil has been a rancher in Logan County, Colo., where he was born on December 3, 1908. With his brother, he presently operates a 4,500-acre ranch which includes a large cattle-feeding operation and production of sugar beets, alfalfa, and corn.

At the time of his appointment as REA Administrator in 1956, Hamil was speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives, a position he had held since 1951. He was first elected to the legislature in 1938 and with exception of a 2-year term in 1948-49, he had served in it continuously.

He first became active in the rural electrification program in 1939 when he helped organize a section of the High-line Electric Association, Holyoke, Colo. He served as director of the Association for 5 years.

Hamil received his B.A. degree from Hastings College, Hastings, Nebr., in 1930. He is married and the father of three children.

sumer and the food industry.

She holds a teacher's certificate in Home Economics and General Science from Catawba College and a Masters degree in General Home Economics and Communications from the University of Maryland.

Answering consumer questions is not a new field for Miss Beck. Before joining USDA in 1967, the attractive young lady from Salisbury, N.C., worked as a Home Advisor for the Duke Power Company in Winston-Salem. It was her job to make home calls on customers who had purchased major appliances.

Miss Beck finds her present work "challenging and exciting" as she keeps attuned to consumer needs and the dramatic changes taking place in the food industry.

1968 Was 'Difficult' Year For Screwworm Program

The last day of 1968 gave screwworm eradication officials one cheerful note on which to end an otherwise difficult year.

December 31, 1968, was the first day in over 9 months with no reports of screwworm infestations in the United States. Veterinarians of the Agricultural Research Service said this marked the first break in the massive resurgence of screwworms that began last March and left four Southwestern States with nearly 10,000 confirmed cases by the end of the year.

The break was short-lived, however. The first 1969 infestation was reported in Medina County, Tex., on January 6.

ARS officials described 1968 as the worst screwworm outbreak since 1962, when USDA, the States, and the Southwest Animal Health Research Foundation launched the cooperative eradication program. Prior to the resurgence, cases had dropped from 50,000 the first year to only 872 in 1967. In 1968, confirmed cases totaled 9,878.

Strangely enough, 1968 also included the longest screwworm-free period on record, 101 days, which immediately preceded the beginning of the outbreak on March 26. Intensive eradication efforts had eliminated screwworms from the United States; however, a large buildup spread northward from Mexico into the Southwest, reaching a peak of 4,155 cases during the month of October.

ARS veterinarians attribute the screwworm resurgence to two major causes: (1) unusually wet and mild weather throughout the Southwest which favored rapid screwworm spread and hindered eradication efforts, and (2) relaxed preventive measures by many ranchers. If the border region has a mild winter and these conditions continue, they fear an even worse outbreak in 1969.

"Concern for People" Is Workshop Theme

The developing food needs in this country was the topic of a national workshop held recently in Washington, D.C. The Consumer and Marketing Service sponsored the 3-day meeting. Theme for the workshop, "Concern for People," coincides with the national focus on hunger and malnutrition.

Purpose of the workshop was to bring together knowledgeable and experienced persons to study the extent and nature of problems involved with Government food donation programs and to search for recommendations and guidelines for these programs.



FAO's TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE work may consist of projects like this in Ivory Coast, Africa. Here an FAO rice expert (right) demonstrates irrigation practices.

AN INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FAO—the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations—is, in a way, an international department of agriculture. Participants are 117 member countries and 2 associate members.

The work of the Organization is in three major areas: Providing a world information service of statistical and technical material pertaining to food and agriculture; sponsoring international cooperation by holding meetings at which agricultural experts from many countries can exchange information and develop solutions to various problems; and providing technical assistance to developing countries.

Nationals from the participating nations make up the FAO staff of more than 5,000 employees. Part of the staff works at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy with the rest located at many points throughout the world.

U.S. nationals were well represented on the staff until 1951 when FAO transferred headquarters from Washington,

D.C., to Rome. Since then, the proportion of U.S. citizens, both in headquarters and field programs, has been unduly low. The International Organizations Staff within USDA is trying to correct this situation by encouraging U.S. agricultural experts to seek FAO employment.

FAO offers some unusual possibilities in international agriculture work. The positions require a college education in agriculture or a closely related field, some years of professional experience, and, in many cases, a Master's or Ph. D. degree. In most cases USDA employees can get a leave of absence for up to 3 years, under provisions of P.L. 85-795 to accept an FAO position.

USDA employees who are interested and qualified are encouraged to contact Mr. Larry Hyer, IOS, Room 339-W, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Or phone 202-388-3408 for more information.



Among the approximately 80 participants were State leaders of Commodity Distribution and School Lunch Programs

and education departments, USDA Consumer Food Program personnel, and representatives of other Federal agencies.

MARSHALL C. GARDNER, District of Columbia Commander of the American Legion, congratulates Ernest E. Toth (center), after presenting him an award for outstanding work with the handicapped. Toth is Coordinator for Employment of the Physical Handicapped, Eastern Administrative Division, ARS. Assistant Secretary Joseph M. Robertson is on the right.

APPOINTMENTS

Appointment of two agricultural attachés was recently announced. EUGENE T. OLSON was named to the post on the U.S. Embassy staff in Ottawa, Canada, and STANLEY W. PHILLIPS will serve as attaché on the staff of the Embassy in San Salvador, El Salvador.

Olson, a native of Canada, has been with the Department since 1957. He holds a degree in agriculture from Montana State and a Ph. D. from the Institute for Advanced Soviet and East European Studies, Columbia University.

Phillips, a native of New Jersey, joined USDA in 1951 as an agricultural economist. He served as assistant agricultural attaché in New Delhi, India, for 2 years and since 1966 has been a program coordinator in the Food For Freedom Program in the Foreign Agricultural Service.

He is a graduate of Maryville College, Maryville, Tenn., and studied at Louisiana State University, where he earned his Masters degree in economics, and at Columbia University.

HERBERT L. PERLMAN and JOHN G. LIEBERT were recently appointed hearing examiners in the Office of Hearing Examiners. These appointments fill vacancies created when Benjamin M. Holstein became chief hearing examiner and hearing examiner Will Rogers retired. As hearing examiners, the new appointees will preside at public hearings and perform related duties under various USDA-administered statutes which regulate the marketing of agricultural commodities.

Perlman, a native of New York, has been assistant to the judicial officer of the Department since 1953. He is also an instructor in the USDA Graduate School and a member of the Department's Board of Contract Appeals. He joined USDA as an attorney in the General Counsel's Office in 1951 after a period of private practice.

Liebert is from Kansas and has been deputy director for litigation in the Marketing Division, Office of the General Counsel. He originally joined the Department as an attorney in 1938 and left during World War II to serve as a naval officer in Europe and Japan, and later as assistant to the assistant secretary of the Interior Department.

WILLIAM HORBALY recently assumed duties as agricultural attaché on the staff of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, replacing Daniel Sheppard who is being reassigned to Washington.

Horbaly has been an agricultural economist with the Department since 1951. He served at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow from 1959 to 1964 and for the past year has attended a Senior Seminar in Foreign Policy presented by the Foreign Service Institute of the Department of State.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Horbaly is a graduate of Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, and has a Ph. D. degree from the University of Chicago. He studied also at Charles University in Prague, Czechoslovakia. From 1942-46 he served in the U.S. Army.



National Lawn and
Garden Week
March 20-26, 1969

"GROWING WITH AMERICA." Lawn and Garden Week (March 20-26) has the support of garden clubs and other civic organizations, leaders in business and industry, and the Department of Agriculture. Community leaders throughout the United States are joining in the observance. The objective is to improve the appearance of homes and neighborhoods with green and growing plants.

Agri Briefs

The average low-income RURAL BORROWER IN THE SOUTH receiving assistance from the Economic Opportunity loan program increased his net family income by more than 11 percent, or \$200, during the first year after the loan. His income is expected to increase another \$400 the following year, according to a recent report from the Economic Research Service. The report was made to determine the financial impact of Office of Economic Opportunity loans made by the Farmers Home Administration to families in South Carolina, the Ozark region, and the Mississippi Delta during 1966. The loan program was started in 1965. A companion study of the program's effect on lobster fishermen in Maine showed that the income of the average borrower there increased by \$565 the first year and was expected to increase \$879 the second year.

During the fiscal year which ended June 30, 1968, more than 40 million pieces of baggage, 28 million hand-carried packages, and 68 million incoming mail parcels WERE EXAMINED BY QUARANTINE INSPECTORS of the Agricultural Research Service. The inspectors, working at the Nation's airports, seaports, and border crossings, stopped an inbound foreign plant pest on the average of once every 12 minutes and seized 125,000 pounds of foreign meats from countries known to have such dreaded animal diseases as foot-and-mouth and rinderpest.

USDA is published fortnightly for distribution to employees only, by direction of the Secretary of Agriculture, as containing administrative information required for the proper transaction of the public business. Retirees who write to the Editor requesting it may continue to get USDA. Please write instead of phoning whenever possible; for rush orders, call Ext. 2058, Mrs. Lillie Vincent, Editor of USDA, INF, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

AWARDS

DR. RUTH R. BENERITO, research scientist at the Agricultural Research Service Southern utilization research laboratory, New Orleans, recently received the Southern Chemist Award for 1968.

The award is presented annually by the Memphis section of the American Chemical Society for distinguished service to the chemistry profession in the South.

Dr. Benerito was cited for her basic research in the physical chemistry of fat emulsions and for her work on epoxides, metallic salts, and diepoxy compounds.

She previously received the Federal Woman's Award for 1968 from the U.S. Civil Service Commission.

DR. GLENN W. BURTON, Agricultural Research Service scientist at Tifton, Ga., recently received the American Farm Bureau Federation's highest honor—the award for distinguished and meritorious service in the interest of organized agriculture.

Dr. Burton was honored for his 32 years of service to agriculture as a geneticist. At the Georgia Coastal Plains Experiment Station, Dr. Burton developed grasses and forage crops that revolutionized animal agriculture in areas where they are adapted.

He has received numerous awards from scientific societies and civic and professional organizations for his work. In 1962, he was elected president of the American Society of Agronomy.

A native of Nebraska, Dr. Burton received his bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska and earned master's and doctor's degree at Rutgers University, N.J. All of his professional life has been spent at Tifton as an ARS scientist.

Forest Service Chief EDWARD P. CLIFF was recently elected chairman of the National Advisory Council of Keep America Beautiful, Inc. He will serve as the U.S. Government representative to the organization, an industry-financed clearinghouse and coordinating agency for anti-litter activities.

The Agricultural Research Service's SNAKE RIVER CONSERVATION RESEARCH CENTER, Kimberly, Idaho, was recently cited for its vigorous, well-rounded Snake River Plains conservation program. The American Society of Agricultural Engineers made the award. The center is concerned with research into soil and water conservation.

PLENTIFUL FOODS

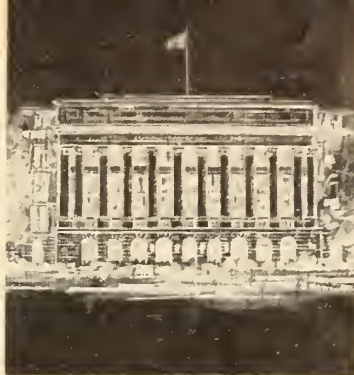
USDA's March list. Featured are dried prunes. Other plentiful include: Potatoes, canned tomatoes and tomato products, canned and frozen sweet corn, grapefruit, grapefruit juice, rice, peanuts and peanut products, pork, and turkey.

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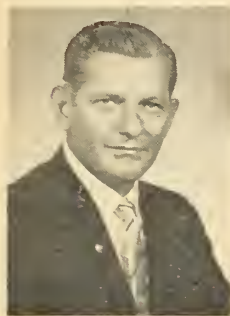
USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVIII NO. 6
MARCH 13, 1969

Galbraith Named to ASCS



W. E. GALBRAITH

President Nixon recently announced the appointment of *William E. Galbraith* as Deputy Administrator for State and County Operations, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. Galbraith is a livestock feeder

and farmer of Beemer, Nebr.

Born in Beemer on January 22, 1926, Galbraith graduated from the University of Nebraska with a degree in Agricultural Extension and Technical Science. From 1949 until 1960 he was a high school agricultural instructor at West Point, Nebr., and managed and operated the family farm which his great grandfather homesteaded after the Civil War. In 1960 he took over ownership of the farm which includes cropland and cattle and hog feeding operations.

A World War II Navy veteran, Galbraith is immediate past National Commander of the American Legion. He has served as chairman of the Nebraska Centennial Commission, co-chairman of the Governor's Conference on Education, first president of the Nebraska Swine Producers Organization, and director of the Nebraska Youth Council.

SCS HELPS BSA

A booklet recently published by the Boy Scouts of America is the result of efforts by Soil Conservation Service personnel. Credited as authors of the publication, entitled "Soil and Water Conservation," are *Walter E. Jeske*, *Katharine N. Mergen*, and *Tarleton A. Jenkins* of the SCS Information Division in Washington, D.C., and *Robert H. Tegner*, SCS information officer, Portland, Oreg. Also acknowledged by the BSA is the counsel and technical assistance given by many other SCS personnel.

The publication is a completely new



MR. COST REDUCTION, USDA

★ ★ For March 1969 ★ ★

Facsimile signature rubber stamps are not always easy to read—and they are expensive. JOHN T. WILSON, a personal property clerk with the Office of Management Services, suggested that inexpensive typewritten signature rubber stamps be purchased instead. The idea was adopted by OMS, resulting in estimated savings of \$330 in 1968 for agencies served by OMS and a cash award of \$20 through the Incentive Awards Program for Wilson. Recently the plan was adopted by other USDA agencies. Further savings of \$800 are estimated and another check for \$40 was presented to Wilson. The idea hasn't stopped at USDA. This money-saving suggestion is being forwarded to the General Services Administration for possible adoption in other Departments. Wilson has reaped cash benefits twice before for employee suggestions which were adopted. Polish up some of your bright ideas. They could pay off in savings to us taxpayers (that includes you). You may also earn extra cash. The next USDA Cost Reducer of the Month could be you.

version of a booklet first introduced in the BSA Merit Badge Series in 1952.

The 98-page illustrated booklet is designed to aid Boy Scouts and Explorers—in both rural and urban areas—fulfill seven basic requirements for soil and water conservation merit badges. It contains background information on intelligent use and conservation of soil and water resources, suggestions for carrying out conservation action projects, and source material relating to resource conservation.

Copp Collins Named Public Affairs Aide

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin recently announced the appointment of *Copp Collins* as his Assistant for Public Affairs. Collins, public relations and political consultant, will serve as news secretary for Secretary Hardin in addition to other assignments out of the Office of the Secretary.



COPP COLLINS

In recent months, Collins was associated with the Nixon-Agnew Campaign Committee as an aide to *Herbert G. Klein*, Director of Communications for the Executive Branch. He has served as transition press aide to Klein since early December.

Born in Keokuk, Iowa, Collins graduated from the University of Redlands with an A.B. degree in political science and spent 2 years in the study of law.

He headed the Copp Collins Associates, public relations and management consulting firm, and was president of Collins & Lynge, Ltd., marketing and public relations agency in New York.

Prior to that he was vice president-director of Chirurg & Cairns, Inc. advertising agency; vice president-director of Friend-Reiss advertising agency in New York; and manager of public relations for California Texas Oil Co. in the Middle East.

He also was manager of public relations of Mutual Broadcasting System, New York; bureau manager of United Press in San Diego; and public relations consultant and advisor to several members of Congress.

The average American CONSUMED ONE MORE EGG in 1968 than he did in 1967, according to the Economic Research Service. That extra egg boosted the average American's intake to 324, still not up to the high of 103 per person achieved in 1945.

James V. Smith Is New FHA Head



J. V. SMITH

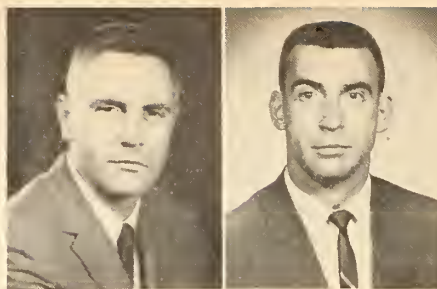
Former United States Representative *James V. Smith* of Chickasha, Okla., has been appointed Administrator of the Farmers Home Administration, according to Secretary Clifford M. Hardin.

Smith was born on July 23, 1926, in Oklahoma City. A lifetime farmer and cattleman, he owns and operates the family farm in Grady County, Okla., where he was reared. He graduated from high school in Tuttle, Okla., where he was a 4-H Club and Future Farmers of America member, and attended Oklahoma College of Liberal Arts, Chickasha.

In 1958 Smith won the Chickasha Jaycees Outstanding Young Farmer Award and that organization's Outstanding Citizen Award in 1965. From 1954 to 1957 he was a member of the FHA County Committee for Grady County.

Smith was elected in 1966 to the 90th Congress from Oklahoma's Sixth District which includes predominantly rural counties in the western part of the State. He served on the House Armed Services Committee.

Active in church and youth work, Smith has served as a member of the Board of Regents of Oklahoma's 4-year colleges and is a trustee of the American Heritage Center at Oklahoma Christian College, Oklahoma City.



E. STONE II and B. FLAMM

FS Doubly Honored With Flemming Awards

Two Forest Service employees, *Edward Stone II* and *Barry Flamm*, were among the "Ten Outstanding Young Men in the Federal Government" to receive the 1968 Arthur S. Flemming Awards, February 13. This is a rare honor to have one agency doubly represented in the coveted awards given annually by the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce.

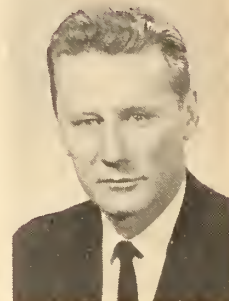
Stone, Chief Landscape Architect with the Forest Service in Washington, D.C., was honored for his work in the "preservation of esthetic values of wildlands."

Flamm, on duty in Saigon with the Forest Service's International Forestry Staff, flew in to take part in the award ceremonies. He was cited for his outstanding contribution as a member of a team working to rehabilitate the timber-related industry in South Vietnam.

The Flemming Awards were presented at a luncheon for the winners, members of the Cabinet, and other distinguished guests in Washington, D.C. Associate Justice *Thurgood Marshall*, Chairman of the panel of judges which selected the winners, made the presentations.

Secretary Names Behrens To Be Executive Assistant

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin has announced the appointment of *E. F. Behrens* as his Executive Assistant, a role Behrens has been filling as the transition representative for the Secretary during December and January.



E. F. BEHRENS

Behrens, a native of Bryant, S. Dak., was formerly Minority Consultant to the Executive Reorganization Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Government Operations during 1967-68. Previous to that, he worked for the National Forest Products Association where he held the positions of Manager of General Operations and Manager of Member Relations. From 1949 to 1958, he was Executive Secretary to Senator *Karl E. Mundt* of South Dakota.

Behrens holds a Bachelor of Science degree from South Dakota State College and served in the Army in a tank destroyer battalion.

USDA to the Rescue

USDA help in the form of food, emergency credit, and other assistance was rushed into areas devastated by two major disasters in January. The aid went to victims of tornadoes which struck three Mississippi counties on January 23 and to people whose lives and property were affected by extensive floods and mud slides in California.

Food, assembled under Consumer and Marketing Service programs, was made available for families in the stricken areas. Farmers Home Administration personnel were on hand to assist in emergency loans if needed. USDA officials evaluated destruction to grazing areas, cropland, and conservation structures.

Forest Service equipment cleared water and mud from buildings, streets, and roads in California, and helicopters rescued persons stranded by the flood. In the Santa Ynez River area 120 people were plucked from homes threatened by rising waters by the FS helicopters.

Personnel from the Forest Service and the Soil Conservation Service assessed damage to watersheds and flood control structures, and kept an eye on heavy snows in mountainous areas for possible additional flooding problems.



RUDOLPH A. WENDELIN (second from left), USDA Staff Artist assigned to the Forest Service, displays the plaque presented him as winner of the 1968 Horace Hart Award of the Education Council of Graphic Arts Industry. Congratulating Wendelin are (left to right) Assistant Secretary Joseph M. Robertson, Deputy Chief of the Forest Service Arthur Greeley, and Office of Information Director Harold Lewis. Wendelin is one of two Government employees to win the 1968 award. He shared the honors with James Murray, Chief of the Publications Branch, Internal Revenue Service. Both winners were cited for significant contributions in the field of printing and publishing, for having distinguished themselves in their government careers, and for giving freely of their time to their community. The award, which is given annually, was presented recently at the Printing Industry of Washington banquet. A formal presentation reception will take place at the national headquarters of the Education Council of the Graphic Arts Industry in Pittsburgh, Pa., March 26.

Let Us Spray . . . Safely

Insect pests that invade homes this spring—or anytime of the year—can be controlled effectively with pesticide sprays. Such chemicals, however, must be handled with care and caution to avoid accidents, particularly where children are concerned.

"Pesticide Safety in Your Home," a new illustrated pamphlet issued by USDA, tells the homemaker how to combine effectiveness with safety in combatting damaging or annoying insects.

Issuance of the pamphlet coincides with observance of National Poison Prevention Week, March 16-23. However, USDA does not limit its pesticide safety activities to 1 week of the year or to one area of interest.

Pesticides are generally the most effective, and in many instances, the only weapons available to fight pests that damage or destroy food and fiber crops, and endanger human health. USDA has major responsibilities in combatting these pests.

In carrying out the responsibilities, the Department conducts a number of continuing programs designed to protect man, animals, and their environment from potential hazards associated with pesticide use. It administers laws and regulations that govern the movement and sale of pesticides in interstate commerce; inspects for residue levels, if any, in meat and poultry products; monitors soils, water, and air for potential pollution by pesticides; conducts research to find additional safe and effective pest control methods; and promotes public education and information on safe use of pesticides.

Through a nationwide program, USDA keeps farmers and ranchers, housewives and gardeners, and the general public informed of the need for care and caution in handling pesticides. Within the Department, the information-education program is carried out by the Office of Information, Agricultural Research Service, Federal Extension Service,



Forest Service, and other concerned agencies.

The program uses spot announcements on radio and television, slides, movies, feature stories, news releases, and cartoons to promote the safe use of pesticides. Publications, such as the one mentioned earlier, are sent on request to the general public. Information packets are distributed to schools, youth organizations, and civic groups. In addition, USDA cooperates with State extension services in conducting safe-use education activities.

More than 60,000 pesticide products made from one or more of 900 chemical compounds are currently registered by USDA. More than \$1¼ million is spent annually by the public on pesticide products.

Single copies of "Pesticide Safety in Your Home" (PA-895) can be obtained free on postcard request to the Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

WOMEN "BLAZE" FORESTRY CAREERS

Alyse F. Moore (below), student at the Forestry School of Stephen F. Austin State College, Nacogdoches, Tex., listens as Edward P. Cliff, Chief, Forest Service, explains the attributes of the once widely used West Coast type logging axe. The power chain saw has replaced this axe in most areas, he said.

Miss Moore, of Houston, Tex.—on winter vacation from college where she is majoring in Forest Recreation Administration—stopped in at the office of the Chief of the Forest Service in Washington to get acquainted with the man who could become her future employer.

Time was when professional work in the forests was considered a male prerogative, but this is no longer true. Today, a steadily growing number of young women have decided, like Miss Moore, to seek a forestry career. Nearly 250 women are currently enrolled in forestry schools across the Nation, according to a count recently made by the Society of American Foresters—and their numbers are growing. Women are now filling



many important positions at the Forest Service, Chief Cliff said. These include data analysts in forest survey and hydrology, road and bridge technicians and designers, laboratory researchers on forest insects and disease, conservation-education specialists, and many more.

Miss Moore informed the Chief that she has other female company in the Texas forestry school—*Patricia Keller* of Albuquerque, N. Mex., and *Mary Thompson*, a Floridian. All three look forward to the day when they can graduate and take jobs as professional foresters.

When asked how she enjoys training for what is traditionally a man's profession, Miss Moore said, "No problem. In school the boys treat us as equals and that's the way we like it."



NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMANS are out to increase local income by \$26 million a year through resource improvements. This new highway sign marks the 1,325,000-acre Cherokee Hills Resource Conservation and Development Project. Members of the project's executive committee and council are: (left to right) Furman Bryant, Earl Squyres, Charley Kirk, and Lloyd Goodwin. The Soil Conservation Service coordinates the work of many agencies aiding the locally organized project.

Mineral King Planned As All-Year Playground

Family recreational facilities for use every day in the year, a self-contained village nestled in an alpine setting, and an underground automobile reception center that keeps cars out of sight and out of the valley are among the highlights of the planned Mineral King Public Recreation Area in California's High Sierra country.

A master development plan for the project, submitted by Walt Disney Productions, was recently approved by the Forest Service. The master plan is based on 3 years of studies and analyses by the Disney organization in close cooperation with Forest Service experts, specialists, and private consultants. Walt Disney Productions was issued the 3-year planning permit in 1966 after their proposal was personally selected by former Secretary Freeman from those of six business organizations responding to a Forest Service development prospectus.

In announcing approval of the master plan, *J. W. Deinema*, Regional Forester, said the objective of the Forest Service "is to provide a needed public service so that the scenic, aesthetic, and recreational resources of Mineral King can be enjoyed by the American people as part of their heritage. At the same time, we intend to work with the Disney organi-



MINERAL KING VILLAGE, as seen by an artist, will serve as the focal point of the planned Mineral King Public Recreation Area, high in the California Sierras. Visitors will reach the Village via a cog-assist railway from an underground automobile reception center.

zation to assure that the development can be accomplished without substantial impairment or permanent, undesirable ecological impact."

Site of the planned all-year recreational project is in the Sequoia National Forest, 55 miles east of Visalia, Calif. The alpine terrain of Mineral King includes eight major snow basins which will provide outstanding skiing, sledding, and general snow play. In addition, winter recreation facilities will include indoor and outdoor ice skating rinks, a heated outdoor swimming pool, a ski jump amphitheater, and trails for cross-

country skiing.

In summertime Mineral King's snow disappears uncovering an area filled with 20 mountain lakes, limestone caverns, waterfalls and streams, pine forests, and grassy meadows. Summer activities in this natural playground will include fishing, hiking, camping, picnicking, sightseeing, and conservation education.

The project will open to the general public in winter, 1973, upon completion of an all-weather access road by the State of California. The master plan outlines details for initial improvements by 1973 to accommodate 1,505 overnight guests, plus day visitors, as well as scheduled development to 1978.



COMMERCIAL CATFISH FARMING is providing "net" income for many farmers in the southern part of the United States. Farmers, who in the past planted catfish in their farm ponds just for the fun of it, are discovering that with a little planning they can raise a profitable crop of fish every year. Since the early 1960's, when catfish farming got its start, the Soil Conservation Service has helped thousands of farmers with information on the selection, design, and construction of pond sites and on the management requirements needed to raise catfish successfully. Harvests, like the one above at a catfish farm near Lake Charles, La., are marketed through fee fishing lakes, restaurants, fish markets, and processors. In addition to opening their ponds to sportsmen for fee fishing, many farmers increase their incomes by renting fishing equipment and boats, and selling bait.

Koger New FHA State Director

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin recently appointed *Paul M. Koger* as State director for Tennessee for the Farmers Home Administration.

Koger began his USDA career in 1941 as a county supervisor for the Farm Security Administration. From 1945 to 1952 he served as county agent for McMinn County, Tenn., and later worked as a soil conservation specialist with a manufacturing company at Athens.

In 1954 he became administrative officer for the Tennessee State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

From 1956 to 1961 Koger served as national administrator of the Agricultural Conservation Program Service.

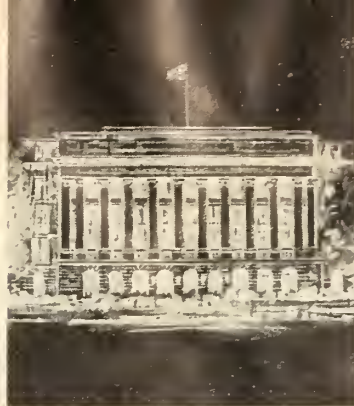
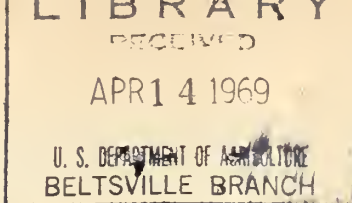
In July 1961 he returned to Tennessee as a management district supervisor for the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service at Chattanooga.

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

MARCH 13, 1969

Vol. XXVIII No. 6

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VOL. XXVIII NO. 7
MARCH 27, 1969

USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

Free Food Stamps To South Carolina

A program to provide free food stamps to families who have very little or no income was initiated March 3 in Jasper and Beaufort Counties, South Carolina. The temporary, experimental program was offered to the counties in an unprecedented action by *Secretary Clifford M. Hardin*. His action came after a recent conference with *Senator Ernest F. Hollings* of South Carolina, who told of his direct observations of need for more food assistance in the two counties.

The program will be operated by the welfare departments of South Carolina and the two counties. They will have the responsibility of determining the extent of need for the program and the persons eligible to receive food stamps free. Both counties have had food stamp programs since 1967. Except for this test program, persons determined by local welfare certification to have little or no income, pay at least 50 cents per person per month—up to a maximum of \$3 for an entire family—to get food stamps.

The test program will enable USDA to measure if or to what extent the food needs of the very poor are unmet by the regular Food Stamp Program. It will also involve trial of simplified and more flexible certification procedures for low-income people who do not receive public assistance but whose incomes fluctuate from month to month. Issuance of stamps by mail to certified persons is also authorized.

Personnel of the Consumer and Marketing Service will help local welfare workers with some of the routine certification chores and with additional clerical workload that may result from the test efforts.

In addition to the food stamp actions, a second food assistance program was started in the two counties on March 10. This is the C&MS-administered supplemental food service to expectant and nursing mothers, infants, and children from low-income families.

This program was initiated nationally by C&MS in December, 1968.



AFTER SIGNING his first crop report, the 1969 Livestock and Poultry Inventory summary, Secretary Clifford M. Hardin checks his watch before releasing the report to waiting wire service and newspaper reporters. The report, prepared under security conditions by the Crop Reporting Board, was released precisely at 3:00 p.m., Feb. 13, to as wide an audience as possible. This procedure insures that no individual or group gets the information in advance and profits from it. The report indicated more cattle, calves, hogs, and pigs on farms and ranches than a year earlier, but fewer sheep, lambs, chickens, and turkeys.

Recreation For Millions

Outdoor recreation facilities, expected to attract more than 10 million visitors a year, are important features of 124 watershed projects being developed by communities in 33 States. USDA provides technical and financial assistance to the projects.

Facilities for swimming, boating, water skiing, picnicking, and hiking will be provided in and around 145 lakes being built as part of the projects. Estimated cost of the 145 recreation developments is \$31.2 million in Federal money and \$40.8 million from local sources.

About 17 percent of the 837 watershed projects currently authorized will have recreation developments.

Paarlberg Named Ag Economics Head

The appointment of *Don Paarlberg*, 57, as Director of Agricultural Economics was recently announced by Secretary Clifford H. Hardin.

Paarlberg was Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Foreign Agriculture during the administration of President Eisenhower.

Since 1961, he has been Hillenbrand Professor of Agricultural Economics at Purdue University. Last year he also was a member of the Agricultural Advisory Committee named by Mr. Nixon and chairman of a task force on job opportunities. He has served as Assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture; member of the Board of Directors, Commodity Credit Corporation; Special Assistant to the President; Food for Peace Coordinator; and Secretary, National Agricultural Advisory Commission.

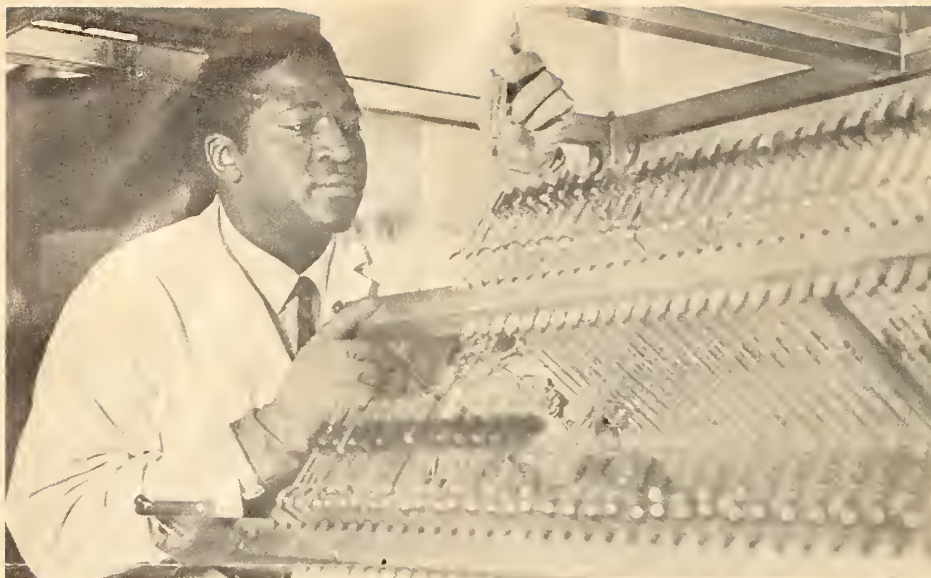
In addition, he has served as an officer with the American Farm Economic Association; delegate, International Conference of Agricultural Economists in 1949 and 1955; and agribusiness consultant with various firms.

He has also traveled abroad as a consultant for the Ford Foundation, the Agency for International Development, and USDA. He has written extensively on agricultural economics.

Born in Oak Glen, Ill., Paarlberg grew up on a farm near Crown Point, Ind. He helped operate this farm until leaving to attend Purdue University. He obtained his B.S. degree in agriculture from Purdue in 1940 and a Ph. D. in agricultural economics from Cornell in 1946.

THE NUMBER OF FOREST FIRES

started by carelessness in 1968 dropped for the second year in a row. Man-caused fires fell to 4,900, some 200 under the 5-year average (1963-67). Total number of fires from all causes—lightning as well as man—was also below normal in 1968. The 9,700 fires were 2,000 fewer than in 1967 and more than 1,000 below the 5-year average.



JOHN R. RUSSELL displays a talent for two careers—a research chemist at the Eastern utilization laboratory, he will leave soon to pursue a profession in music.

ARS RESEARCH CHEMIST WINS VOICE SCHOLARSHIP

John R. Russell, research chemist with the Agriculture Research Service, was recently awarded a scholarship for voice study by the Lauritz Melchior Foundation.

Russell was one of two heldenteners out of nine finalists who competed for the scholarship when they sang before Melchior, the great Wagnerian tenor. Heldentenor denotes a singer whose dramatic tenor voice is suited for heroic operatic roles.

The scholarship provides for all the expenses of the young singer and his family while he pursues voice study at a place of his choosing. Russell plans to enter the Juilliard School of Music in New York in the fall and to study abroad the following summer. For the past 9 years he has studied with Mme. Illa Caretnay of the Germantown Settlement Music School.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania in 1954 with a B.A. degree in chemistry, Russell has done research at the ARS Eastern utilization research laboratory in Wyndmoor, Pa., since 1958.

Russell sang for 18 years in the choir of the Enon Baptist Church where he is a member, and with many other church choirs. During the past 2 years he has appeared as feature solist with many symphony orchestras and has performed with the Suburban Opera Company, Chester, Pa. A three-time winner of the Philadelphia Eisteddfod (Welsh singing festival), he competed last year at the International Eisteddfod in Wales.

Russell's wife Barbara is his accompanist. They have six children. Their oldest child, Keith, 12, is a budding artist. His paintings of birds are on display now at the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences.

It's The Questionnaire That Counts

The census taker will not be knocking on the farmer's door next year. Instead, the 1969 Census of Agriculture will be taken by mail. Farmers will receive a questionnaire—in January 1970—which he is required by law to fill out and return. This census by mail is expected to prove cheaper than the "knock-on-every-door" method used in earlier years.

In most respects, the 1969 Census and what it covers will be comparable to the 1964 and earlier counts. However, a "short" version of the basic questionnaire has been developed for farmers who sell less than \$2500 worth of farm

products a year. A second version designed for farms with larger sales asks the same questions but in greater detail.

The definition of a farm is not changed. Places of less than 10 acres with 1969 sales of agricultural products of at least \$250 or places of 10 acres or more with sales of at least \$50 qualify as farms.

Principal data items for all farms include: Total number of farms, acres in farms, questions on crops and livestock produced, farm machinery and equipment, chemicals used, operating expenses, and type of farm organization.

Weitzell Appointed REA Deputy Administrator

A veteran career employee of USDA, *Dr. Everett C. Weitzell*, is the new Deputy Administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration, according to an announcement by Secretary Clifford M. Hardin.



E. C. WEITZELL

Dr. Weitzell served in REA from 1947 to 1961, first as program analyst and then as Deputy Assistant Administrator for the rural telephone loan program. He returns to REA from the Federal Extension Service where he served from 1961 to November 1962 as program leader for rural areas development; director, division of resource development and public affairs, 1963-66; and resource development economist, division of community resource development, 1966 to the present time.

Dr. Weitzell was born on a farm in Garrett County, Md., in 1912. He attended the University of Maryland where he earned a B.S. degree in Agricultural Education and an M.S. degree in Agricultural Economics. In 1936 he went to the University of West Virginia where he supervised specialized research projects in cooperation with USDA. Dr. Weitzell began study in 1939 as a Rockefeller Fellow at the University of Wisconsin, earning his doctorate in Land Economics. During World War II he served as a lieutenant in the Navy.

Aslakson Named FCIC Manager

Richard Aslakson, 51, from Ray, N. Dak., has been designated by Secretary Clifford M. Hardin, to serve as Manager of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.

Aslakson operates a 2,080-acre grain and cattle farm near Ray and has held numerous State and local public service jobs. He has served as chairman of the State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, member of the Board of Directors of Williams County Electric Cooperative, and director of the local Credit Union Board.

Aslakson was born on a farm at Ray. He has been farming for himself since 1940 when he received a B.A. degree in economics and mathematics from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn.



REGIONAL FOREST SERVICE EMPLOYEES, Bertha Koch (left) and Ladene Hughes, view some of the art displayed at an exhibit held in the Forest Service's Region 1 headquarters, Missoula, Montana. All of the more than 60 contributions to the highly praised exhibit was the work of Forest Service

employees in the Missoula area. The show, held the last of December, served as a holiday greeting to the artists' fellow workers and to the public who visited the well-publicized event. The success of the exhibit has led to plans for making it an annual affair.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Appointed

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin has announced appointment of **Andrew J. Mair** as Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and Commodity Programs. He will serve directly under Assistant Secretary Clarence D. Palmby.



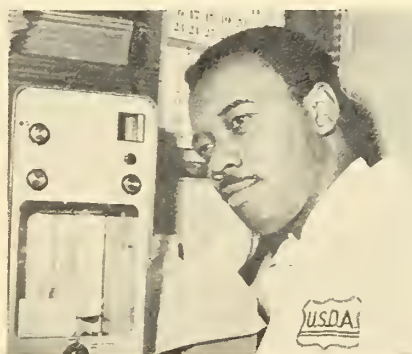
ANDREW J. MAIR

Mair returns to Washington, D.C., from Ankara, Turkey, where he has been Director of Finance for the Central Treaty Organization (CENTO). Earlier he had served as administrative officer in the U.S. Embassies in Kabul, Afghanistan, and Rome, and as agricultural attaché in The Hague, Netherlands.

Prior to his foreign service, Mair held a number of positions in the Commodity Stabilization Service. Included was Deputy Administrator of CSS, predecessor of the Commodity Credit Corporation. Before coming to Washington, D.C., in 1957, Mair was administrative officer of the CSS office in Denver, Colo.

From 1936 to 1947, Mair owned and operated a farm near Fort Collins, Colo. He attended Colorado State College, Greeley, and holds an economics degree from the University of Denver.

He was born on a farm near Britton, S. Dak., and as a child moved with his family to Colorado in 1918.



STEVEN D. DAILEY, an inspector-chemist for Consumer and Marketing Service, Chicago, Ill., recently was honored with a Community Service Award from the Chicago Federation of Community Committees. He was recognized for "outstanding volunteer service for the prevention of juvenile delinquency and for the betterment of neighborhood life through self-help efforts of its residents." For the past 5 years, Dailey has devoted 20 or more hours weekly to work with underprivileged boys in the Chicago area.

SRS REPORTS CHANGE

The Statistical Reporting Service recently announced several changes in publication of reports and data series. Four SRS reports are being discontinued as a result of program analysis.

Discontinued reports are: The Ryegrass Seed Intentions scheduled for March 21; Manufactured Dairy Products Summary scheduled for February 24; Weekly American Cheese Warehouse Report from Chicago; and Monthly Shipments of Stocker and Feeder Cattle and Sheep into Selected North Central States.

A report on April 1 Stocks of Grain will be issued on April 24. This revokes an earlier announcement that the April report was being discontinued.

Milk Moves Many Miles

If you live in Florida, you may at times be drinking fresh milk from a Minnesota dairy farm. In fact, milk produced somewhere in the Midwest may find its way not only to a dinner table in the South but also across the mountains to the West. According to the Consumer and Marketing Service, milk is moving more miles than ever before to reach consumers.

This trend to the "long haul" is the result of economic and technological changes in the last two decades. With improvements in highways and advances in refrigerated transportation facilities, metropolitan milk markets are no longer isolated from major milk-producing areas. Bulk tanks, replacing milk cans to move milk off the farm, and tank trucks, taking milk directly from farms to processing plants, are making milk handling easier.

These developments have brought important changes to the Federal milk marketing order program, according to the C&MS Dairy Division. This program maintains orderly marketing conditions between farmers and milk dealers to assure consumers a dependable flow of fresh milk.

As milk handlers' distribution and procurement areas keep expanding, Federal milk orders are becoming more regional, rather than local, in character. Marketing areas are getting larger and the number of milk orders, smaller. But the smaller number of orders—now 67 as compared to a peak of 83 in 1962—cover substantially more of the Nation. More consumers in more parts of the country now buy milk from dealers operating under Federal orders.



LAYNE BEATY, Chief, Radio and Television Service (standing left), discusses an "Across the Fence" script with WRC-TV director Max Schindler. Meanwhile Pat Morgan, Head, TV Service of the Radio and Television Service (left) and guest, Dr. Charles Gunn, ARS scientist, rehearse the positioning of poison seed exhibit for the camera.

"Across the Fence" Now on 51 Television Stations

Each week more than 4½ million Americans enjoy a "chat" with USDA experts "across the fence." The experts get a major assist in this communication project from 51 television stations. The stations, located in 28 States and the District of Columbia (see box), are regular users of USDA's 30-minute television program, "Across the Fence."

The program, now in its eighth year, is produced by the Office of Information's Radio and Television Service and is taped for USDA in the studios of WRC-TV, NBC affiliate in Washington, D.C.

The TV Service staff works closely with information representatives from USDA agencies in developing program ideas which cover a wide range of farm and consumer topics. For instance, a recent "Across the Fence" program included segments on "Poisonous Seeds and Plants" with Dr. Charles Gunn, taxonomist from the Agricultural Research Service; "Preparing Leg of Lamb" with Sandra Brookover, Consumer and Marketing Service; and "Rifle Sifter" with Charles Howard, Forest Service. The last subject concerns a new machine designed to clean up stream beds so spawning salmon can lay their eggs.

Occasionally, one topic may be chosen for a "special" such as the recent "Science and the War on Hunger," a description of efforts by the ARS to develop new food resources.

In addition to "Across the Fence," TV Service produces other television ma-

terials. These include 3½ minute videotaped news featurettes, films, and slide features—all in color.

Featurette topics are as versatile as the subject matter on "Across the Fence." They can be used in a variety of ways but primarily are played on local television shows as feature inserts. Currently 280 stations receive these tapes on a regular basis.

To help meet stations' demands for more motion pictures, TV Service supplies films on current USDA projects. Booklets listing "USDA Films for Television" are also furnished to stations for selection of films available on loan from the Department's Motion Picture Service.

TV Service's slide sets are another effective means of reaching the public through television. Slides and scripts, sent on request, enable the local announcer to narrate a story and perhaps add a local angle. More than 200 stations receive a monthly consumer slide packet called "TV Home Features."

The featurettes, the slide sets, and the films enable USDA stories to reach large numbers of people at a very low cost per viewer. Their success can be measured by the large volume of mail requests from the public for USDA bulletins offered by the programs.

More and more television sets are being sold each week; more TV stations are going on the air; more Americans are getting their news from television.

TV Stations Using "Across the Fence"

(Check local station for day and time)

ALABAMA—Birmingham, WBRC-TV; ARIZONA—Phoenix, KPHO-TV; ARKANSAS—Little Rock, KATV-TV; CALIFORNIA—Fresno, KJEO-TV; Sacramento, KXTV-TV; Sacramento, KCRA-TV; San Francisco, KRON-TV; San Diego, KFMB-TV; CONNECTICUT—West Hartford, WHNB-TV; DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—Washington, WRC-TV; FLORIDA—Orlando, WSSH-TV; Pensacola, WSRE-TV; GEORGIA—Atlanta, WQXI-TV; ILLINOIS—Rockford, WCEE-TV; INDIANA—Indianapolis, WISH-TV; Terre Haute, WTOV-TV; KENTUCKY—Lexington, WKYT-TV; LOUISIANA—Baton Rouge, WAFB-TV; New Orleans, WDSU-TV; Shreveport, KSLA-TV; MASSACHUSETTS—Boston, WHDH-TV; MICHIGAN—Detroit, WJBK-TV; MISSISSIPPI—Jackson, WLBT-TV; Tupelo, WTUV-TV; MISSOURI—Kansas City, WDAF-TV; Springfield, KYTV-TV; MONTANA—Billings, KULR-TV; NEVADA—Las Vegas, KORK-TV; NEW YORK—Buffalo, WKBW-TV; New York, WNBC-TV; Rochester, WROC-TV; Schenectady, WRGB-TV; NORTH CAROLINA—Durham, WTVD-TV; OHIO—Cincinnati, WKRC-TV; Cleveland, WJW-TV; OKLAHOMA—Oklahoma City, KOCO-TV; Tulsa, KVOO-TV; OREGON—Portland, KATU-TV; PENNSYLVANIA—Philadelphia, KYW-TV; Philadelphia, WPHL-TV; Wilkes Barre, WNEP-TV; TEXAS—Beaumont, KBMT-TV; Fort Worth, WBAP-TV; Houston, KHTV-TV; San Antonio, WOAI-TV; UTAH—Salt Lake City, KUTV-TV; Salt Lake City, KCPX-TV; VIRGINIA—Roanoke, WRFT-TV; WASHINGTON—Seattle, KOMO-TV; WEST VIRGINIA—Parkersburg, WTAP-TV; Morgantown, WWVU-TV.

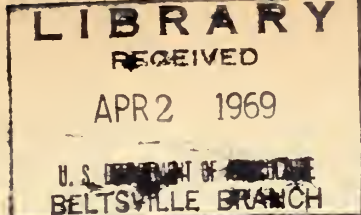
TV Service is attempting to keep pace and to provide rural and urban Americans with useful information about USDA activities.

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

MARCH 27, 1969

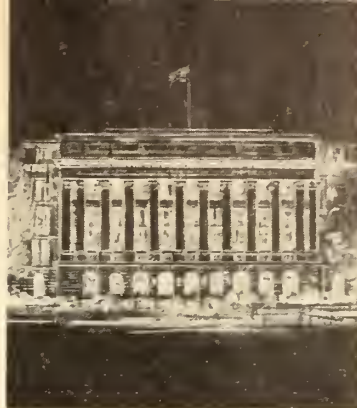
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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVIII NO. 8
APRIL 10, 1969



FIFTEEN EAGLE SCOUTS AND EXPLORERS from all regions of the country visited USDA in Washington, D.C., recently to express appreciation for the Department's cooperation with Scouting programs and to learn firsthand about government operations. The Scouts were greeted by USDA by Kenneth E. Grant (center), Administrator of the Soil Conservation Service, and Edward P. Cliff, Chief of the Forest Service. On behalf of Secretary Hardin, who was unable to attend the meeting, Grant and Cliff accepted a copy of the "1969 Report to the Nation" which the Scouts had presented to President Nixon earlier in the day. The Report summarized the activities and achievements of the Boy Scout organization during the past year. Decorative paperweights were also given by the Scouts. Grant and Cliff presented to each Scout a copy of the 1967 USDA Yearbook, "Outdoors USA." The Eagle Scouts and Explorers participating in the "1969 Report to the Nation" activities were selected for their outstanding records of achievements and leadership in local and regional Scouting endeavors. One of the Scouts, Douglas Ross (not shown), is the son of USDA meat inspector Gordon C. Ross, Clarkston, Wash.

LYNG APPOINTED ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Richard E. Lyng, 50, California Director of Agriculture, has been named by President Nixon to be Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Consumer and Marketing Services.

Born in San Francisco, Lyng was reared in Modesto, Calif., and obtained a degree in business administration from the University of Notre Dame in 1940. He worked with his late father in the family seed business, serving as company president from 1949 to 1966.

Lyng has been active in business and civic affairs for many years. He has served as president of several organizations, including the California Seed Council, California Seed Association, Modesto Chamber of Commerce, and Modesto Rotary Club. He also has worked in the California-Chile foreign visitors exchange and assistance pro-



SECRETARY CLIFFORD M. HARDIN assists Wanda Leonard, 7, a Washington, D.C. school student, in cutting a flower chain to open a Growing With America Festival, held March 20-22 in the Patio of the USDA Administration Building, Washington, D.C. USDA personnel offered a variety of exhibits and scientific demonstrations on growing plants during the Festival celebrating Spring and National Lawn and Garden Week.

Secretary Announces New Emphasis on Farm Exports

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin has announced agency changes to place new emphasis on programs relating to exports of farm commodities. Proposed is creation of an Export Marketing Service, supervised by a General Sales Manager, reporting to the Secretary through the Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and Commodity Programs.

The Export Marketing Service will have the principal responsibility for recommending policies and programs to maximize exports of agricultural commodities. Particular emphasis will be on exports for dollars. Realignment of export action functions into one Department agency will facilitate meeting competition from other exporting nations in the world markets.

The Secretary also announced plans to transfer the functions of the International Agricultural Development Agency into the Foreign Agricultural Service. The FAS will be the USDA agency primarily concerned with coordination of foreign trade matters, foreign aid, and other government-to-government issues. This will enable closer Department coordination with other Federal agencies concerned with foreign aid and foreign policy.

The FAS will also report to the Secretary through the Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and Commodity Programs.

For success in GROWING GARDEN ROSES plant them in a site that receives at least 6 hours of sunshine daily. Roses should be watered frequently, fertilized every spring after the new growth is well established and pruned every year. Single copies of "Roses for the Home" (HG-25) can be ordered free from the Office of Information, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250. Please order by title and number.

grams under auspices of the Agency for International Development.

Lyng was named chief deputy director of the California Department of Agriculture in 1967 and became director in 1968.

ASCS ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR NAMED

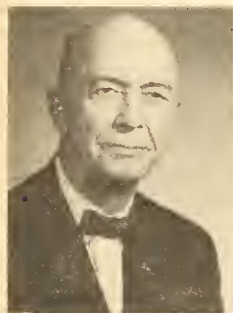
Secretary Clifford M. Hardin recently announced the appointment of *Carroll G. Brunthaver*, Memphis, Tenn., as Associate Administrator of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

Born in Fremont, Ohio, in 1932, Brunthaver graduated from Ohio State University and received a Ph. D. degree in agricultural economics in 1960. While at the University, he was an assistant instructor in the Department of Agricultural Economics and authored several publications resulting from research on land retirement—an activity of ASCS he will now help direct.

After serving as Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics at Michigan State University, Brunthaver became Director of Research for the Grain and Feed Dealers National Association, 1961-66. In 1966 he became Associate Director of Research of Comco, an affiliate of Cook & Co. and Riverside Industries, Memphis, Tenn. In these positions, Brunthaver engaged in extensive research and study of farm and price activities.

Brunthaver served in the Air Force from 1954-57, the last year as commander of the Wright Patterson Air Force Base Radar Approach Control Center.

Byerly Is Assistant Director Of Science and Education



DR. T. C. BYERLY

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin recently announced appointment of *Dr. Theodore C. Byerly* to the newly created position of Assistant Director of Science and Education. A career official with 36 years

service with the Department, Dr. Byerly has been Administrator of the Cooperative State Research Service since 1962. Born in Melbourne, Iowa, Dr. Byerly graduated from the University of Iowa in 1923 and received his doctorate there in 1926. He taught zoology at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and later at Hunter College, New York City, before joining USDA in 1929 as a physiologist in the old Bureau of Animal Industry. He has been with the Department

since then except for a 4-year period when he was a professor of poultry husbandry at the University of Maryland.

In 1954 he served as chairman of the U.S. Delegation to the 10th World Poultry Congress, Edinburgh, Scotland, and in 1962, as chairman of the National Research Council's division of biology and agriculture—the first time a USDA scientist had been selected to chair the division.



CARL B. BARNES, right, Director of Personnel for the Department, receives an award from John F. Griner, National President of the American Federation of Government Employees. The award, for Barnes' outstanding contributions to the Employee-Management Cooperation Program, was presented at the AFGE National Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada.



PESTICIDES for
Lawn Care?
FIRST remove people
and pets

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Training Center Planned

A Consumer Protection Training Center, stressing courses in poultry slaughter inspection, is planned for Gainesville, Ga., according to the Consumer and Marketing Service.

New Federal food inspectors and veterinarians initially assigned to poultry plants will train at the Center. State personnel will also be trained as part of the implementation of the Wholesome Poultry Products Act.

This training is now done at 26 locations. The new Center will provide more uniformity and economy in training inspectors, C&MS said.

Four other training centers are in operation. Courses in processed food inspection and slaughter inspection of red meat animals are given in Fort Worth, Los Angeles, Omaha, and St. Paul.



NEW AND OLD TOP BRASS of the Intermountain Veterinary Medical Association look over the list of 1969-70 committee assignments. Dr. Donald Miller (left), Springfield, Va., was elected president at the 41st annual meeting of the Association in Las Vegas, Nev., recently. Dr. Don Shaffner, Dillon, Mont., the outgoing president, turned over the gavel to Miller who is assistant director for Western Field Operations, Animal Health Division, Agricultural Research Service. Shaffner is in private practice.

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YOUNG ARS SCIENTIST PRAISES WORKING FOR USDA

Less than 4 years after he joined the Agricultural Research Service as an assistant research soil scientist, *Richard Smiley* was written up in two national agricultural journals.

That's quite a record for a young man who graduated with a B.S. degree in 1965 from California State Polytechnic College. It's even more remarkable because he had no idea of going into research until a month before graduation when he talked to an ARS recruiter.

Smiley is happy with his career and even happier with the opportunities he sees in his future. He makes note of these opportunities in an article he wrote for *The Soil Auger*, a student magazine published by the soil science department of Cal Poly at San Luis Obispo:

"One can expect to be exposed to many new and exciting phases of agriculture in the Soil and Water Conservation Research Division of ARS. I'm stationed at the Palouse Conservation Field Station at Pullman, Wash., where there are more than a dozen different research projects under investigation.

"I was encouraged to enroll in classes to become better trained for my work. It has taken me 3 years to earn an M.S. degree but my income was at least twice the salary available through assistantships or fellowships.

"At Pullman, in addition to my required duties, I developed an individual interest in the use of anhydrous ammonia fertilizer for control of soil-borne diseases. I was given permission to test my theories, a rare opportunity for an employee with only a B.S."

Smiley's research has received much attention because it has the appearance of being successful in providing control of some plant diseases by using modified application techniques for commonly used fertilizers. His work was reviewed in *Farm Journal* and appears in the January issue of *Agricultural Research*. Technical articles will soon appear in the scientific press.

Speaking to Cal Poly undergraduates, Smiley writes, "I had planned on being employed by a fertilizer dealer so I didn't take any 'hard courses' as electives. The result was having to take many extra classes to make up graduate school requirements.

"I suggest that anyone having reasonably good grades should take as many courses in the basic sciences and supporting fields as possible. Remember—you may also want to change your plans and it is always easier to step down than scramble frantically upward for survival in any profession."



RICHARD SMILEY OPERATES an anhydrous ammonia applicator which he designed for field injections of ammonia.

New ASCS Area Directors Named

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin recently announced the appointment of three new area directors for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. They are *Claude L. Greene*, Robersonville, N.C.; *James P. Jones*, Kress, Tex.; and *Howard Waters*, Danville, Iowa.

The new directors, all active farmers, will be headquartered in Washington, D.C. They will have general supervision of farm action programs carried out by the ASCS in their assigned areas.

As director for the Southeast area, Greene will supervise farm programs in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

For the Southwest area, Jones will coordinate program activities in Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Kansas, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Utah.

Waters will supervise farm program activities in the Midwest area including Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin.

Directors for the Northeast and Northwest areas will be announced later.

Kuhl Is New Agricultural Attaché

Jerome M. Kuhl is the new agricultural attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Djakarta, Indonesia. He replaces *John W. Anderson* who has been reassigned.

Kuhl joined the Foreign Agricultural Service in 1959 as assistant agricultural attaché in Caracas, Venezuela, and has served as agricultural attaché in Santiago, Chile, and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

He was an economic officer with the Department of State from 1952-54 in Luanda, Angola, and later was assistant to the president of an import-manufacturing company there. For the past year

Students To Exhibit At 12th Annual Science Fair

More than 50 high school students will exhibit their prize-winning science projects at the 12th Annual USDA-OPEDA Youth Science Fair scheduled for April 25. The Fair will be held in the Administration Building, Plant Industry Station, Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md.

Participants will be chosen by USDA teams of judges from five Washington, D.C.-area school science fairs being held during March and April.

The Organization of Professional Employees of the Department of Agriculture (OPEDA) cooperates annually with the Department in staging the event.

Each student will receive a special Certificate of Merit at opening ceremonies at 9:00 a.m. Fair activities also include a luncheon for the students, their families, and their guests.

The exhibits will be open to the public from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Special buses will be provided for visitors to tour the Department's extensive farm, crop, and animal experimental facilities at Beltsville.

New System Speeds Up Retirement Claims

Procedures designed to speed up processing Civil Service retirement claims are now in effect, according to a recent Civil Service Commission report.

Federal agencies are now authorized to submit optional or mandatory retirement applications and necessary records to the CSC 6 weeks in advance of an employee's retirement date. The new system permits the CSC to verify employment records and compute annuity while the employee is still on the pay roll, and to notify the Treasury Department to schedule payment of the first annuity check when due.

Under previous procedures for non-disability retirement, agencies submitted applications after the retiring employee had received his last pay check. In some cases the time lapse has delayed receipt of the first annuity check by one or two months.

The new system calls for agencies to confirm that employee separation actually took place no later than 5 days after the employee's final pay date.

Agencies are also requested to establish a similar procedure for submission of records needed to pay lump sum refund claims.

Kuhl has been a staff economist in the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture.

Students Work and Learn Under the "Jan Plan"

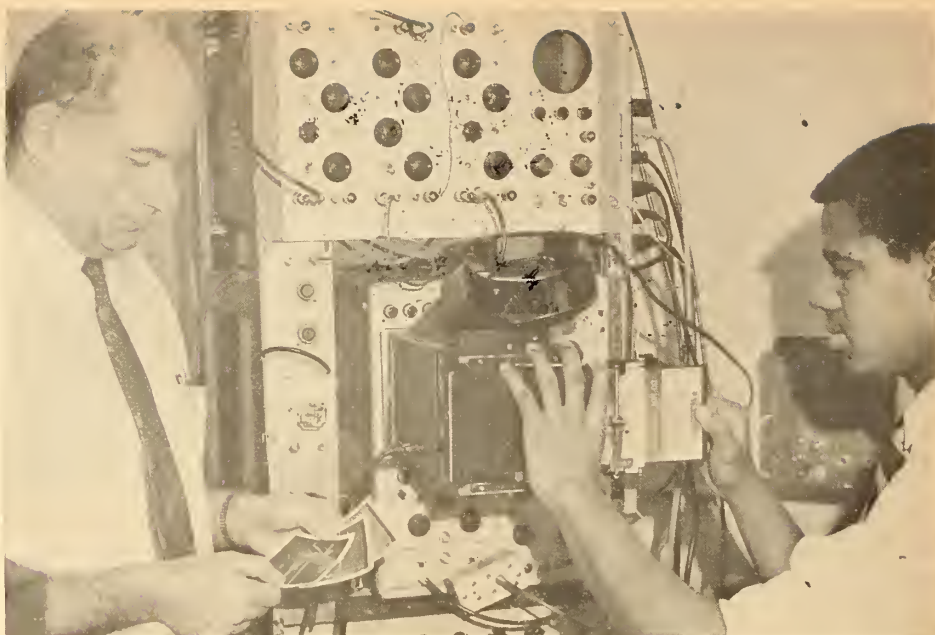
Three chemistry students from Lincoln University, Oxford, Pa., worked for the Agricultural Research Service during January instead of attending their usual classes.

The three—*Vivica Fitzpatrick*, *Leona Scott*, and *Vincent Pearson*—are taking part in the first work-study program arranged between ARS and a university with a predominant enrollment of minority group members.

The cooperative arrangement, nicknamed the "Jan Plan," provides for students to work at the Eastern Utilization Research and Development Division in Wyndmoor, Pa., during January and in the summer.

Miss Fitzpatrick, of Ashland, Ky., is a premedical student who is interested in a career in pathology or surgery. Last summer she worked with *Dr. William G. Gordon* of the Eastern division's Milk Properties Laboratory on a technique to identify and analyze proteins. In January she worked with *Dr. Robert E. Townsend*, doing research on a milk protein known as beta-lactoglobulin.

Interested in a career in analytical chemistry, Miss Scott received valuable research experience on nitrogen from



VINCENT PEARSON (right), Lincoln University student, discusses a research project with Dr. Leo Kahn, ARS chemist at the Eastern Utilization Research and Development Division.

Dr. Clyde L. Ogg, Plant Products Laboratory. Last summer Miss Scott did research in sociology as she worked on a survey in Pittsburgh for the Mayor's Committee on Human Resources.

Pearson served as business manager for *Dig This*, a monthly teenage news-

paper, before entering Lincoln University last fall. At the Physical Chemistry Laboratory, Pearson made a study that may lead to a quicker and more accurate assay method for collagen, the protein component of animal hide. He was supervised at the lab by *Dr. Leo D. Kahn*.

ASC State Committeemen Named

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin recently announced appointment of new chairmen and members of three Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) State Committees. The appointments fill vacancies caused by resignations of former committeemen in Iowa, Arizona, and Texas.

The new appointees are:

Iowa—*Leon Werner* of Van Horne, Chairman, and *Milo Lee* of Inwood and *H. K. Russell* of Bedford, committeemen.

Arizona—*Joe A. Sheely* of Tolleson, Chairman, and *Wilbur H. Wuertz* of Casa Grande and *Arden J. Palmer* of Thatcher, committeemen.

Texas—*Clarence A. Danklefs* of Rosenberg, Chairman, and *Charles L. Calhoun* of Fabens, *Frank H. Hinkson* of Muleshoe, and *John B. Rudd* of Waskom, committeemen.

"Food Guide for Older Folks," a new USDA bulletin, tells about OLDER PEOPLE'S FOOD NEEDS and how to meet them. Single copies of the bulletin can be obtained free upon request to: Office of Information, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.



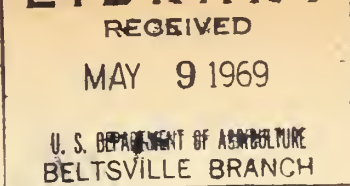
THOUSANDS OF DEER, game birds, water fowl, and other wildlife were saved from starvation this year through the cooperation of USDA, Department of the Interior, State conservation agencies, farmers, sportsmen, and other conservationists. An unusually severe winter endangered much of the wildlife in northern States. The USDA contribution was more than 205,000 bushels of Commodity Credit Corporation-owned feed grains provided free of charge to State conservation agencies and the Department of the Interior for feeding wildlife. Expenses for moving the grain from CCC storage sites and distributing it were borne by the authorized agencies and volunteers aiding these agencies. State conservation agencies obtaining the grain included Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Washington. In addition, the Department of the Interior distributed CCC grain on water fowl and migratory bird refuges in Montana, Oregon, South Dakota, and Washington. Above, hungry deer appreciate a good meal of CCC-donated grain on a cold winter's day in Michigan. Conservation-interested citizens aiding the State agencies drove many miles to pick up the feed and distribute it in scattered areas accessible to the wildlife. In many cases, snowmobiles were used for distribution. Besides helping distribute the CCC-donated grain, many farmers provided feed from their own farms and also cut browse for the animals.

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VOL. XXVIII NO. 9
APRIL 24, 1969

USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

NAL To Move in May

The National Agricultural Library will move to its new home at Beltsville, Md., in May.

The Director of the Library, *John Sherrod*, has expressed the hope that the transfer can be accomplished without undue interruption of normal library operations. However, relocation of the Library's immense collections will entail unavoidable problems and delays in service.

While the move is actually in progress, reference and lending services will be provided insofar as possible by the Library's Beltsville Branch to Department personnel only. Service from the main Library collection will be drastically curtailed.

Library spokesmen asked that all requests be placed well in advance of May 1. After that date, all publications are to be returned to: National Agricultural Library, Beltsville, Md. 20705.

Full service will resume at the Beltsville address as soon as possible after June 1.

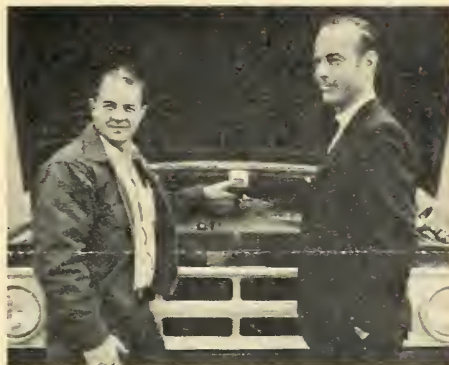
Complex Farm Problems Handled by Computers

Two thousand Northeast farmers recently saw a graphic demonstration of how a computer can help them make management decisions. The demonstration was given at the Eastern Potato Industry Exposition, held in Harrisburg, Pa.

Pennsylvania Extension agents alerted farmers attending the exposition to bring along information about the cost of their tractors, potato harvesters, and other machinery. Specialists fed this information into a field terminal wired to computers at USDA's Washington Data Processing Center.

The farmers quickly got back the cost per hour and per unit of production for their present machinery—and other machines they might want to buy or trade.

The demonstration was a joint effort of the Federal Extension Service and



MR. COST REDUCTION, USDA

☆☆ For April 1969 ☆☆

TO CHANGE OR NOT TO CHANGE . . . changing antifreeze in vehicles without checking the need wastes money. Not changing in time could waste engines. John A. Livermore (right), procurement officer with the Soil Conservation Service in Salt Lake City, read about a corrosion meter that could reduce engine maintenance costs. Benno C. Hatch (left), inspecting mechanic, used the meter to test half the SCS fleet in Utah. Nine vehicles showed excess acid and corrosion in the cooling system and needed flushing sooner than the usual 2-year schedule. Potential expensive overhauls and cooling system or engine troubles were thereby prevented. Another 10 vehicles didn't need the change after 2 years—saving needless purchase of coolant and cost of flushing. Potential savings from use of this meter are estimated at more than \$5 per vehicle per year. Livermore and his collaborator Hatch suggested use of the meter for all government vehicles. These men received letters of commendation from Secretary Hardin. Cash awards are pending adoption of the idea by other agencies. This is one of several money saving ideas appearing in a recent issue of "Cost Cutting Tips," published by the Office of Plant and Operations. Read these yellow and black bulletins. They are printed to help you do your job more economically. If you can use this idea in your automotive maintenance program, be sure to contact your Employee Suggestions Coordinator. How about sharing your good ideas? They could pay off. You may earn extra cash—and be honored as Cost Reducer of the Month.

the Statistical Reporting Service, and the Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maine, and Massachusetts State Land-Grant Universities.

The modern Center computers can handle questions—60 at a time—faster than man can ask them. Properly loaded computers can give answers on machinery alternatives, cropping patterns, and other complex farm management problems in minutes instead of days.

Extension Combats Hard-To-Reach Hunger

The Cooperative Extension Service has launched a massive attack against the hunger that stalks the Nation's poor.

The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, activated by Extension in all 50 States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia, is helping nearly 200,000 low-income families improve their diets. Currently, the program is operating in 673 areas—199 urban and 473 rural.

Some Americans are malnourished, even in the midst of our national abundance, simply because they lack food; many others, because they lack the knowledge to achieve adequate diets from food that is available to them. One-third of all families with an annual income under \$3,000 have diets rated as "poor."

Experience shows that personal home visits and "word-of-mouth" communications are needed to help the hardest to reach families.

About 5,500 program aides, trained by Extension home economists, are being recruited to work in their home areas, where they understand the people, their needs, and their problems.

These aides visit needy families to show homemakers how to get the most food value for their money or their food stamps, and how to prepare nutritionally complete meals from these foods and from donated foods.

Food and nutrition are interrelated with many other family problems. Aides often must help poor families learn better management of their limited resources and guide these families to other services they need.

Most State Extension Services have electronic data processing projects underway in cooperation with business and other agencies. They are aimed at helping farmers use computers to speed up analysis of their farm records and management alternatives.

This demonstration is part of the search for ways to make local terminals tied to central data centers easily accessible to farmers.



DR. ODETTE SHOTWELL displays the award certificate she received as one of 10 finalists as the Outstanding Handicapped Federal Employee of the Year, a new award sponsored by the Civil Service Commission. Dr. Shotwell, USDA's nominee for the award, is a research chemist with the Northern Utilization Research and Development Division, Agricultural Research Service, Peoria, Ill. Commissioner Robert E. Hampton (right), Civil Service Commission, presented the certificate to Dr. Shotwell and the other finalists in ceremonies in Washington, D.C., on March 25. Dr. S. R. Hoover, Assistant Deputy Administrator, ARS, is on the left. Katherine A. Niemeyer, Chief Dietitian, Veterans Administration Restoration Center Hospital, East Orange, N.J., was named as Outstanding Handicapped Federal Employee of the Year.

Professor To Deliver Morrison Memorial Lecture

Patrick Horsbrugh, Professor of Architecture at Notre Dame University, Notre Dame, Ind., will give the second B. Y. Morrison Memorial Lecture June 3, in Cleveland, Ohio.

The lecture, to be delivered before the national annual convention of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, is sponsored by the Agricultural Research Service. It honors *B. Y. Morrison* (1891-1966), the first director of USDA's National Arboretum and creator of the famed Glenn Dale azaleas.

Lecturers are nominated by representatives of botanical and horticultural societies, and education, conservation, park, recreation, and wildlife associations. They are chosen for outstanding contributions to ornamental horticulture and to the preservation or enhancement of man's environment. *Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson* spoke at the first B. Y. Morrison Memorial Lecture.

Horsbrugh, an international figure in environmental planning and design, created and developed Notre Dame's Graduate Program in Environic Studies at Notre Dame.

His nomination describes him as a man who embraces the fields of architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning, and segments of the field of engineering in the pursuit of his objectives.

"For Your Information . . ."

Bulletin boards built by the local Soil and Water Conservation District and holding the latest information about Federal agricultural and State conservation programs have been placed in several rural stores in northeast Minnesota. These rural information centers are maintained by personnel of the Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Farmers Home Administration, and the Division of Lands and Forestry of the Minnesota Conservation Department.

Participating agencies credit this joint endeavor to "good relations between agencies created by sitting together on Technical Action Panels."

Another joint effort is a locally produced TV program with coverage over northeast Minnesota, northern Wisconsin, and Michigan.



USDA AND STATE agency representatives examine some of the information materials from a bulletin board soon to be placed in a rural store in northeast Minnesota. Left to right are: Jon Hedman, ASCS; John Rydberg, FHA; Gerald Murphy, Minnesota Conservation Department; and Herbert R. Boe, SCS.

Frick Designated ASCS Administrator

Kenneth E. Frick, 48-year-old California farmer, has been appointed Administrator of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. The announcement was made recently by Secretary Clifford M. Hardin.

Born in Bakersfield, Calif., Frick graduated from the University of California in 1941 with a B.S. degree in agricultural economics. He served in the Air Force from 1941 to 1945.

Frick became a farmer in Kern County, Calif., on his discharge and with his wife now owns and operates the 2,175-acre farm. He lives in Arvin.

Frick is a member of a number of farm and cooperative organizations and a former board member of the Arvin Unified School District. For 3 years, starting in 1958, he was a member of the California ASC Committee. Before that he served 4 years on the County Committee.



SPRINGFIELD ESTATES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL students in Springfield, Va., eat lunch in their Cafe of the Three Seasons, which was built in the cafeteria for students who display particularly nice table manners and behavior. Students built the simulated cafe with the help of local high school students, school personnel, and parents.

A SCHOOL LUNCH FOR ALL SEASONS

Not just anyone can have lunch at the Cafe of the Three Seasons in Springfield, Va., even though a completely nutritious lunch costs only 35 cents.

The cosmopolitan cafe is a very exclusive place where table etiquette and seasonal decor get unusual emphasis. Only the 960 students at Springfield Estates Elementary School can get "reservations" at this little noon spot.

There really isn't any difference between the Springfield Estates School Lunch Program and those of most other schools in the country. Like other schools participating in the National School Lunch Program, Springfield Estates provides nutritious meals at a low cost and tries to make lunch time an educational process for the children. But the imaginative approach used to liven up the cafeteria and to make it a training ground for better table manners, brings a new dimension to school lunches.

AW, HEX!

Mamey apples, okra, sweet potatoes, mangoes, guavas, and pigeon peas were some of the items seized by Plant Quarantine Inspector *M. D. South* from the luggage of a lady arriving at the San Juan, Puerto Rico, airport. The passenger reciprocated by advising Inspector South she was putting a voodoo hex on him. Thirty minutes later, the Inspector injured his knee and was unable to walk for a short time.

Visiting Forester Braced For Wintery Tour

The record snowfalls and sub-zero temperatures which greeted *Keizo Yamazaki* on his recent tour of USDA forestry offices across the northern half of the United States, served to make him feel right at home.

Keizo Yamazaki is assistant chief of forest planning on Japan's northern island of Hokkaido, a place of severe winters and site of the 1972 Winter Olympics. The purpose of his tour in the United States was to study forest administration by State and Federal agencies. His itinerary included the Forest Service's offices in Washington, D.C., and Milwaukee, Wisc., and the North Central Experiment Station in St. Paul, Minn.

Since Minnesota's winter was clearly no hardship for a visitor from such a snowy place, Yamazaki took time to visit two field units of the North Central Station, located in the northern part of the State. He saw the results of good forest management on a stand of magnificent pines; he snowshoed across a frozen lake to see a bald eagle's nest in a red pine; he watched skiers and snowmobilers enjoying the slopes at a winter recreation resort; and he visited the Station's Northern Conifer Laboratory to learn how bog research related to watershed management.

At the Station's Duluth field unit, Yamazaki heard personnel explain forest products marketing and utilization studies, plus their analysis of the increasing use of second, or "vacation," homes in the Lake States.

Now back in Japan, Yamazaki will try to apply those forestry techniques he saw in the U.S. that may answer some of his country's forest problems.



JAPANESE FORESTER Keizo Yamazaki (right) waits his turn to try estimating the height of 65-year-old red pines with a Haga altimeter. Research forester John Benzie of the Northern Conifer Laboratory shows him how it is done American style. This was Yamazaki's first experience on snowshoes. In Japan foresters travel on skis during winter fieldwork.



PERSONNEL OF THE New Orleans Commodity Office (NOCO) of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service recently cooperated with the New Orleans Post Office in Operation Pre-Sort. NOCO completed the mailing of 1,333,199 pieces of Airlift Sectional Center-designated mail in 3½ days. They used labels, racks, trays, and pouches furnished by the Post Office and an ASCS vehicle to transport the processed 230 pouches of mail to the Post Office. The Regional Post Office estimated that presorting by NOCO is worth \$766 per 150,000 pieces of mail to the Post Office Department.

POSTHUMOUS AWARD HONORS RECORD SERVICE

A 35-Year Service Pin was presented to the wife and son of the late *Ralph Bergman* in a recent ceremony at the Colorado Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service State Office, Denver. The award and ceremony paid tribute to Bergman's continuous and dedicated service as a member and chairman of the Adams County, Colo., ASC Committee.

Bergman owned and operated a farm in Adams County and a cattle ranch in Larimer County. His service to agriculture began in the early 30's when he was elected an Adams County Committeeman during the "Corn-Hog Days." He was elected continuously until his death in the fall of 1968. Bergman died as a result of injuries suffered in a jeep accident while inspecting cattle on his ranch in northern Colorado.

This continuous service of more than 35 years may have established a national



record for an elected county ASC committeeman.

Mrs. Bergman and son Robert, former State Executive Director of the Colorado ASCS Office, continue to operate the family farm and ranch holdings.

Haspray Appointed to FHA

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin has appointed *Joseph Haspray* as Deputy Administrator of the Farmers Home Administration. Haspray has been Acting Deputy Administrator since March 17.

Haspray, a career USDA employee, assumes his new position following 3 years as Director of the Office of Management Improvement. In that post, he was responsible for the development of a Department-wide automated data processing program.

Considered an expert in computer management, Haspray was in charge of USDA's Management Data Service Center in New Orleans, La.

Approximately 2,900 visitors viewed flower, vegetable, and lawn exhibits and watched plant growing demonstrations at the GROWING WITH AMERICA FESTIVAL, March 20-22. The Festival celebrated National Lawn and Garden Week and the start of Spring.

Earlier Haspray held top posts for USDA throughout the country, administering price support and inventory management programs on a regional level. He served as Assistant Director of the Minneapolis Commodity Office from 1950 to 1953, and as director of the Chicago office of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service from 1953 to 1965.

APPOINTMENTS

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin recently named new committeemen to six Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation State Committees. The appointees and their hometowns are as follows:

ILLINOIS: Kenneth T. Benjamin, Bloomington; Milton M. Hartman, Mounds; and Glenn S. Randall, Chrisman.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Marshall J. Parker, Seneca; Fred Connor, Jr., Eutawville; LeRoy S. Epps, Jr., Greeleyville; J. P. Hodges, Bennettsville; and John A. Arant, Pageland.

COLORADO: Leo Sommerville, Fruita; Roy Inouye, LaJara; and Robert B. Grauberger, Haxtun.

NEW MEXICO: John R. Hadley, Texico; Hollis E. Gary, Rincon; and Joe D. Montoya, Ocate.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Robert G. Hoffman, Rockham; Edwin T. Rudd, Colman; and Donald K. Howe, McLaughlin.

NORTH DAKOTA: Gordon L. Myer, Pillsbury; William L. Grandy, St. Thomas; and Howard W. Hardy, Beach.

DR. ARTHUR I. MORGAN, Jr., prize-winning chemical engineer, was recently named Director of the Western Utilization Research and Development Division, Agricultural Research Service, Albany, Calif.

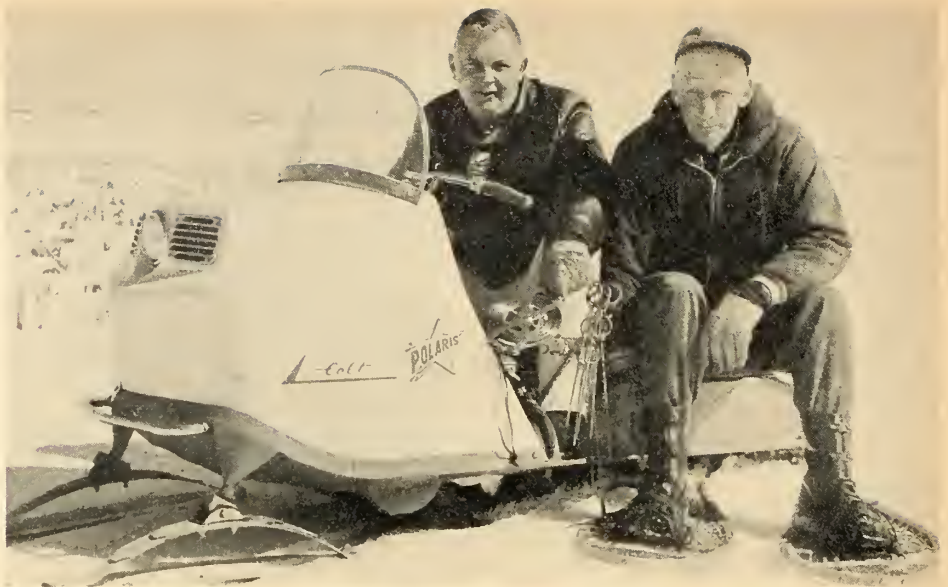
Dr. Morgan, 45, was born and educated in Berkeley, Calif. Since 1952 he has been employed at the USDA laboratory as research chemical engineer, investigation head, and since 1962, chief of Engineering and Development Laboratory. He is a lecturer in chemical engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, and an instructor in oceanography at the Naval Reserve Officer's School, Treasure Island.

He has received a number of awards for his inventions of processes related to food preservation.

WILLIAM R. HATCH was recently appointed as agricultural attaché on the staff of the U.S. Embassy in Pretoria, Republic of South Africa. He replaces Harry R. Varney who is transferring to Ankara, Turkey, as agricultural attaché.

Hatch joined the Foreign Agricultural Service in 1955. He has previously served as agricultural attaché in Iran, Ireland, Kenya, and Australia. Since 1967 he has been a marketing specialist with FAS' Livestock and Meat Products Division.

Hatch was born in Heber City, Utah,



HEAVY SNOWS IN THE MIDWEST this winter were welcome news to at least one feed grain reporter whose job was to measure farm fields for the Floyd County, Iowa, ASCS Office. Lloyd Hoppe used a snowmobile and snowshoes to 'pre-measure' fields for farmers signing up in the feed grain program. When fields are measured and staked before planting, farmers have the certainty of knowing they are in compliance with USDA farm programs. This service, offered by ASCS county offices at a nominal cost, usually means the reporter uses a pickup truck to get to the farm, then hikes across fields, sometimes getting stuck in mud or snow. It takes a lot of time. But this year Hoppe zipped across country in his snowmobile and trekked the measurement lines on snowshoes. He 'pre-measured' about 100 farms this year, twice as many as he did last year. Above, Iowa farmer Ed Exline takes over control of the snowmobile, while Hoppe, on snowshoes, prepares to 'pre-measure' farm fields.

and reared in Idaho. Before joining USDA he spent 15 years operating the farm he owns near Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin recently announced the appointment of **ELVIN J. PERSON**, 57, a farmer and businessman from Big Lake, Minn., as Northwest Area Director for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

In his new position, Person will be headquartered in Washington, D.C., and will have general supervision of farm programs administered by ASCS in the designated States of the Northwest Area. These include: Alaska, Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming.

Appointment of **CLYDE W. GRAHAM** to head the work of the Soil Conservation Service in Texas was announced recently by Administrator Kenneth E. Grant. Graham succeeds the late H. N. Smith as State Conservationist of the agency at Temple, Tex. Currently, Graham is director of SCS' Watershed Planning Division, Washington, D.C.

A native Texan, Graham joined SCS in 1946 as a field engineer in Texas. He held field jobs in several Texas locales

Ag Science: More Than Farming

What does agricultural science mean to you and me? A new USDA bulletin, "Imprint on Living," answers the question.

Written for the nonfarm audience, the 48-page booklet tells what scientists—especially those who work with the Agricultural Research Service—are doing to assure food supplies, safeguard health and the environment, lower costs, improve clothing and homes, and preserve natural resources.

The wide range of subjects are eye openers for those who think agriculture is only farming. For young people concerned about the future of our planet, the subjects could provide leads to meaningful careers.

Copies of the publication (Agriculture Information Bulletin 330) are available for \$1.25 each from: Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

before coming to Washington in 1954 as a budget analyst with SCS. He returned to Texas in 1958, serving as Assistant State Conservationist for Watersheds and later as Deputy State Conservationist from 1964 to 1966.

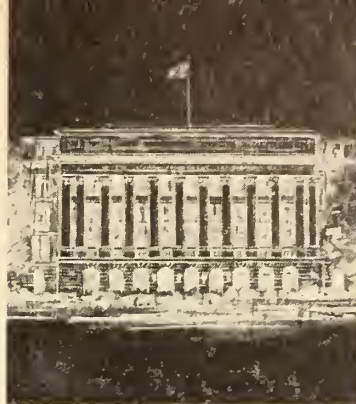
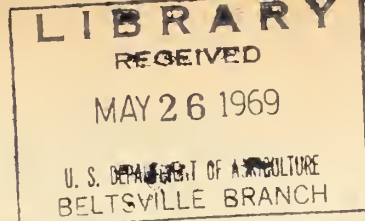
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MAY 8, 1969

USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

Food Stamp Program Goes Multilingual

Something new has come to old Chinatown—and to Alaska from Bistol Bay to the Seward Peninsula, to Gogebic and Houghton counties, Mich., and to U.S. communities where Spanish-speaking Americans live.

The something new is official food lists that give a few simple rules in one of five different languages to persons taking part in the Food Stamp Program. There are now lists in Chinese, the Yupik dialect of the Eskimo language, Finnish, and Spanish, as well as English.

The multilingual food lists help the Consumer and Marketing Service reach people who may need food assistance in more than 1,200 food stamp counties and cities in 43 States and the District of Columbia.

The food stamp office in Ironwood, Mich., reports that 75 percent of the population in Gogebic and Houghton counties are of Finnish descent. Many others of this nationality live in the Dakotas, northern Minnesota, Oregon,

Washington, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Ohio. Chinese and Spanish-speaking Americans are almost as ubiquitous as the English-speaking variety.

Along the west coast of Alaska non-speakers of Eskimo dialects can recognize the Yupik list because it has capital letters in the middle of words. The translator, *Mrs. Martha Teeluk* of Nome, Alaska, says such capitalized letters have a sound of their own that cannot be indicated in any other way. That is also the reason that Yupik sentences do not start with capitals. For the English word "coupon," Mrs. Teeluk used the Yupik "neqkat," literally "play money." "Neqkat" however, is universally used in the area to make distinctions between currency and other negotiable papers. Other Eskimo dialects that may find their way onto the official lists are Athapascan, Aleut, Haida, and Thlingit.

Latest figures show that 2.9 million persons across the Nation take part in



IN SAN FRANCISCO a passerby pauses to read the Chinese language food list distributed by the Food Stamp Program.

the Food Stamp Program. They receive some \$18.6 million worth of extra food-buying power each month in bonus coupons.

In about 1,200 other areas where the Food Stamp Program is not operating, C&MS' Commodity Distribution Program is reaching 3.8 million additional needy adults and children.



MEMBERS OF THE 1969 Honor Awards Committee met in March with Secretary Hardin to recommend to him recipients for the Distinguished and Superior Service Awards. The awards will be presented to USDA employees at the 23d Annual Honor Awards Ceremony on May 20. Discussing the awards with the Secretary are committee members (left to right): Chairman Howard W. Hjort, Director, Planning Evaluation and Programming Staff, USDA; Dr. Frederick N. Andrews, Vice-President for Research, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.; the Honorable Roy Freeland, Secretary, Kansas State Board of Agriculture, Topeka; Dr. Jay L. Lush, Professor of Animal Science, Iowa State University, Ames; and Dr. John Lash, Director, Special Projects-Federal Relations, Texas Southern University, Houston. Dr. Lash represented committee member Dr. Granville M. Sawyer, President, Texas Southern University.

1969 CO-OP MONTH PLANNED

USDA is calling together representatives of other Federal Departments and independent agencies and of national organizations of cooperatives to plan the 1969 Co-op Month observance this October, Secretary Hardin announced.

The National Advisory Committee on Cooperatives asked Secretary Hardin to take this action in its April 8 meeting. He said he has named Under Secretary *J. Phil Campbell* as Chairman of the Co-op Month 1969 steering committee.

The purpose of Co-op Month, Secretary Hardin said, is to increase knowledge and understanding of cooperatives. The observance traces its origins back to a Waukegan, Ill., mayor's proclamation of Co-op Month 40 years ago. It became a State celebration in 1948 when Minnesota and Wisconsin Governors issued proclamations. USDA participated in Co-op Month for the first time in 1964.

Cowden Named Assistant Secretary



DR. T. K. COWDEN

Dr. Thomas K. Cowden, 60, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Michigan State University, has been named by President Richard M. Nixon to be Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Develop-

ment and Conservation.

Before becoming Dean at the East Lansing, Mich., school, Dr. Cowden served as head of the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University; as director of research for the American Farm Bureau Federation; and as professor of agricultural economics at Purdue University and at Pennsylvania State University.

Dr. Cowden has traveled extensively in the United States, Europe, and other parts of the world in connection with his agricultural work. He also has served as a member of national committees for economic development and agricultural policy.

Born in the farming community of Hickory, Pa., Dr. Cowden graduated from Ohio State University in 1930, received his Master's degree there in 1931, and his Ph. D. from Cornell University in 1937.

It's a Bitter Pill

Capsule-carrying ants are helping scientists of the Agricultural Research Service fight a notorious pest of humans, animals, and crops. The busy carriers are worker fire ants, members of the tribe the scientists are aiming at eradicating.

The tiny plastic-coated capsules the ants carry contain a bait of soybean oil and Mirex, an insecticide developed by the ARS scientists. Spread by airplane over fields, the capsules are gathered by the worker ants, brought back to their nests, and fed to the ant queen. Even if all the worker ants are not destroyed, the colony will soon die once the queen is dead.

In small scale tests, less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of an ounce of the insecticide per acre has given good control. In such minute quantities, Mirex is virtually nonhazardous to humans, pets, wildlife, fish, or bees. In fact, the insecticide is so specific to the fire ant that it will not kill a number of other ant species.

"COLOR THE CITY GREEN," a new color movie on 4-H, premiered during USDA's recent "Growing With America" Festival in Washington, D.C. Donald S. Parham (left), AGRICO Chemical Company, presents Under Secretary J. Phil Campbell with one of 50 prints of the movie given to USDA for use in 4-H programs in each of the 50 States. AGRICO sponsored and financed the film. Looking on are Paula Harrell, Georgia 4-H'er, Mrs. Campbell, and Brent Davis, New Jersey 4-H'er. Paula and Brent are two of the 4-H'ers appearing in the new movie.



SHARP-EYED CITIZENS AID IN PEST CONTROL

Gardeners, farmers, campers, and hikers are urged by USDA to keep a sharp lookout for unusual insects or damage to ornamentals, trees, lawns, houses, or crops.

Such insects or damage should be reported at once to county agricultural agents or State or Federal entomologists. It could mean that a foreign pest has sneaked past quarantine barriers or that the numbers of an established pest are building up to dangerous levels in new areas.

Plant pest control experts of the Agricultural Research Service stress the important part played by private citizens in discovering new insect enemies. It was a Florida homeowner's curiosity about larvae found in a grapefruit that triggered the successful campaign in 1956 against the destructive Mediterranean fruit fly.

The weekly ARS publication, "Cooperative Economic Insect Report," provides a warning service on insect threats by noting established pests in new areas and the unusual build-up of known pests. Citizens contribute to the service by collecting insects, preserving them, and sending them to county agricultural agents or State universities along with information on where the insects were found and what damage they were causing.

USDA Food Exhibit In Japan Is 1969 First

The annual Japanese International Trade Fair in Tokyo April 17-May 6 was the site of the first major 1969 overseas exhibition of U.S. foods.

The exhibition was a follow-up of the successful and popular all-U.S. "American Festival" held last spring in the same location—Tokyo's Harumi Wharf.

The American exhibits stressed products new to the Japanese trade and consumers. Demonstrations and displays introduced refrigerated dough items, including cookies, biscuits, and sweet rolls. Pancakes and waffles also made their debuts for Japanese home use. Other commodities on exhibit included beef, feed grains, poultry, raisins, lemons, prunes, peas and lentils, and honey.

A soap display, sponsored by the U.S. tallow industry, and a Japanese-style house made of U.S. lumber and plywood were two non-food displays.

All major trading nations participate in the Japanese Fair which draws from 1 to 1.5 million visitors.

Japan is the American farmer's largest overseas customer, taking nearly \$1 billion worth of U.S. agricultural products each year.

FHA State Directors Named

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin recently announced appointment of three new State Directors of the Farmers Home Administration.

Gordon F. Klenk of Easton, Minn., was named to the FHA post for Minnesota. He formerly served as Minnesota State Director for 1954-61. State headquarters for the agency are in St. Paul.

James L. (Lynn) Futch of Canadian, Tex., specialist in agricultural credit, was appointed to the State Director post for Texas. He assumed his new position after nearly 17 years with Texas Production Credit Associations. Futch's headquarters are in Temple, Tex.

The new FHA State Director for Wyoming, Bill Clark, has been a ranch operator and cattle producer at Worland, Wyo., since 1948 and operator of an oil production company in the same community for more than 26 years. State headquarters for FHA in Wyoming are in Casper.

New Appointees for Export Marketing Service

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin has announced two appointments to the recently approved Export Marketing Service. *Clifford G. Pulvermacher*, Sterling, Va., was named General Sales Manager and *Frank G. McKnight*, El Paso, Tex., Associate General Sales Manager of the new agency.

Pulvermacher, a native of Sauk City, Wis., has more than 25 years experience in farm export and foreign aid work. He played a leading role in recent years in substantially increasing export of U.S. wheat to Japan, The Philippines, Korea, and Taiwan. He has served as Assistant Deputy Administrator, Commodity Operations, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, and earlier was Director of the ASCS Procurement and Sales Division.

Pulvermacher joined USDA in 1941 as field worker for various food programs. In 1945 he went to work for the Department of Defense, working mostly on overseas assignments in connection with distribution of supplies in occupied countries in Europe and Asia. He returned to USDA in 1950.

McKnight, 47, has more than 20 years experience in cotton merchandising and oilseed processing and sales. His most recent position has been as District Manager for the El Paso district of the Paymaster Oil Mill Co., division of Anderson, Clayton & Co. Previously, he was in charge of export and domestic cotton linters sales for that company and held various jobs with oil mills in the Southwest area.

APPOINTMENTS

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin recently named new members of State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committees for Washington, Minnesota, and Virginia. The appointees are:

WASHINGTON—*Herb Hemingway*, Garfield; *Jess A. Knutzen*, Burlington; and *Robert W. Holloway*, Quincy.

MINNESOTA—*Selvin M. Erickson*, Badger; *Alvin B. Payne*, DeGraff; and *Elton T. Redalen*, Fountain.

VIRGINIA—*James S. Gillespie*, Poundling Mill; *Homer A. Long, Jr.*, Edinburg; and *Delman R. Carr*, Carrsville.

Secretary Hardin recently announced the reassignment of **GEORGE B. HANSEN** as Deputy Administrator, State and County Operations, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, and **WILLIAM E. GALBRAITH** as Deputy Under Secretary for Congressional Relations. The job swap was made at the request of the men concerned.

The Secretary stated that Hansen had requested a position where he could gain administrative experience and Galbraith desired more experience in Congressional affairs.



A NIMBLE TV CAMERAMAN finds the back of a mule a good spot to shoot footage for a documentary on the people and resources of the Hull-York-Lakeland area.

"GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING..."

You take a plane to Nashville, Tenn., drive 80 miles east, and you are in the heart of the Hull-York-Lakeland Resource Conservation and Development project. This 11-county, 2½ million acre section of the Cumberland Highlands is undergoing many changes as it heads towards the 1970's. The job of the RC&D project people is to see that these changes are beneficial.

What is RC&D besides a handful of initials? Basically, it's a regional development program for people with the need, the desire, and the ability to grow and improve. It is a varied program that aims at better use of such fundamental resources as soil, water, and timber, and includes such diverse end results as more employment opportunities; better job training; more hospitals, libraries, and roads; cleaner water; and that intangible known as community spirit.

The Hull-York-Lakeland RC&D project began as an idea in 1964, sponsored by the local soil conservation districts. RC&D board chairman *Dr. L. R. Dudley* traveled thousands of miles during 1965 to tell civic groups and other gatherings about the project and why it needed community participation to work. By October 1966, the planning was completed and RC&D sponsors were ready for the "cash and carry-out the work" phase. Since then:

- Fifty-one projects have been completed, adding \$7½ million gross income to the area yearly.

- Work is underway on 32 other measures, expected to add \$10.8 million more in annual gross income.

- Farm conservation work has increased 40 percent over pre-project days.

- Ten of the 11 RC&D counties have new industries. Three job training centers are operating and a new mountain crafts association is active. Beautification campaigns have cleaned up dump areas and seeded roadside areas. Five towns have sanitary landfills or have acquired the land; no town had them before. Tourism is actively promoted through the RC&D Recreation and Tourism committee. Five new libraries have been built and four new health centers are under construction. Flood prevention work has helped farmers and homeowners and allowed one factory employing 1,400 people to stay in the area.

The "people effect" is also dramatic. "A few years ago," says Dr. Dudley, "we were Tennessee's problem child. The young productive people left in droves. The tax base shrank. Modern school rooms sat empty. Businesses closed. Now, spirit is high. Good things are happening—things that require coordination and common concern, qualities not evident before the project came to life."

Hull-York-Lakeland is one of 51 RC&D projects now authorized throughout the Nation. The Soil Conservation Service has responsibility for coordinating RC&D work. But the secret of success is the willingness of local people to help themselves.

Nobel Prize Winner Is Atwater Memorial Lecturer

Nobel Prize-winning biochemist *Dr. Albert Szent-Gyorgyi* will give the second annual W. O. Atwater Memorial Lecture in September in New York City, Secretary Hardin announced recently.

The lecture will be delivered before the 158th Semi-Annual Meeting of the American Chemical Society at a joint session of the Biological Chemistry and Agricultural and Food Chemistry Divisions. Dr. Szent-Gyorgyi's talk will be jointly sponsored by the Agricultural Research Service and the American Chemical Society.

This is the second annual lecture to honor USDA's first chief of human nutrition research, *Dr. Wilbur O. Atwater* (1844-1907). Lecturers are nominated by representatives of universities, national associations of educators and of scientists, foundations, and medical societies. They are chosen for their outstanding contributions to the broad field of nutrition and the sciences it embraces. Last year's speaker was Nobel Prize-winning Finnish chemist, *Dr. Artturi I. Virtanen*.

Dr. Szent-Gyorgyi is Director of the Institute for Muscle Research for the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Mass. In 1937, he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Medicine and Physiology for his discovery and isolation of vitamin C from both plant and animal sources.

Forest Service Adds New Research Natural Areas

Two tracts of National Forest land were permanently set aside recently for education and scientific study.

These Research Natural Areas, among 79 in the National Forest System in 28 States and Puerto Rico, are essentially virgin forest or other plant communities maintained strictly for scientific observation and research.

One new tract, the Roaring Branch Research Natural Area, contains 300 acres of old-growth shortleaf pine and hardwoods in the Ouachita National Forest in Arkansas.

The other tract, the Wolf Creek Research Natural Area, contains 150 acres representative of the western shrub and grasslands in the fringe of the ponderosa pine. It is located in the Okanogan National Forest in Washington.

Research Natural Areas serve as baselines for comparative study with other areas subjected to grazing, timber harvesting, and recreational use. Environmental changes that affect natural veg-



McVey's Idea Now Big Reality

Daniel H. McVey, Special Assistant to the Assistant Administrator, Farmer Cooperative Service, stands before a new 5 million bushel export elevator which he had a hand in bringing into being.

The elevator—located about 15 miles up river from New Orleans—is owned and operated by a federation of seven Midwestern regional cooperatives. The federation is known as Farmers Export Company and represents a million farmers.

At dedication ceremonies on March 21, President of the company, *F. V. Heinkel*, said, "Five men started thinking of building this facility. If any one person can claim to have conceived the idea, it's Dan McVey."

McVey did more than just conceive the idea. He helped the farmer-owned businesses organize Farmers Export Company, find the best design for the facilities, and chose the most efficient site.

The co-ops invested \$9 million of their members' money and borrowed \$19 million from the Banks for Cooperatives to get the elevator into operation. It can handle 125 million bushels of grain a year, a volume that could earn \$175 million at current prices in the export markets for the United States.

etation development—such as air pollution, weather modification, and changes in ground water levels—can also be compared.

Research Natural Areas in the Forest Service system will eventually represent all important forest and rangeland types. They are part of a larger Federal system of Research Natural Areas, representing vegetation types, examples of fish and animal habitats, land forms, soil types, and mineral deposits.

USDA SAVINGS BOND CAMPAIGN FOR 1969

The table below is the USDA Savings Bond scorecard as of March 22, kickoff date for the USDA 1969 Savings Bond Campaign. *Dr. E. R. Draheim*, Office of Personnel, is technical assistant to Secretary Hardin for the campaign.

Agency	Investors	Percent
OHE	7	100.0
FCS	85	95.5
IOS	8	88.9
SEG	7	87.5
FCIC	574	87.0
FHA	5,606	86.6
CEA	125	83.3
RCDS	19	82.6
B&F	51	82.3
OP	57	81.4
SCS	12,064	81.0
OIG	676	80.9
P&SYA	144	80.4
FES	167	80.0
REA	684	79.6
ASCS	3,288	79.5
SEC	66	78.6
RPDES	25	78.1
FS	16,530	77.6
FAS	451	77.5
P&O	195	76.2
ARS	10,516	75.7
SRS	897	74.9
C&MS	9,881	73.6
CSRS	58	69.9
INF	145	69.7
IADS	59	69.4
OMI	152	67.9
ERS	672	64.7
OMS	200	63.9
NAL	107	63.7
OGC	214	62.8
USDA	63,730	77.8

HONOR AWARDS CEREMONY SCHEDULED FOR MAY 20

All USDA employees are invited to attend the Department's 23d Annual Honor Awards Ceremony at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 20, at the Sylvan Theater, Washington Monument Grounds.

Secretary Clifford M. Hardin will be the principal speaker. Distinguished and Superior Service Awards will be presented to 77 employees and groups representing 40 field headquarters and the Washington Metropolitan area.

In case of rain the ceremony will be conducted at the Departmental Auditorium between 12th & 14th Streets on Constitution Avenue NW.

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

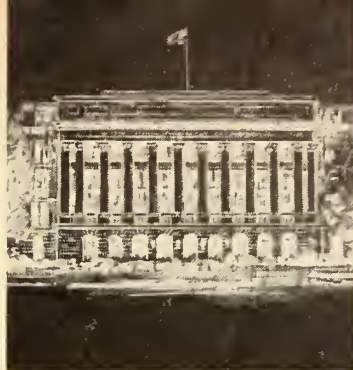
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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVIII NO. 11
MAY 22, 1969

Magazine Features Worldly Ag Stories

One of the best sources of new ideas and experiences in the field of international agricultural development is the *AGRICULTURAL REVIEW*, a magazine published quarterly by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to which the United States belongs.

Published in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Greek, and Turkish editions, *AGRICULTURAL REVIEW* features articles submitted by experts from OECD member countries.

The latest issue spotlights such stories as:

"Intergovernmental Organizations—A product of the 20th Century" by *Dr. Ralph Phillips*, Director of USDA's International Organizations Staff

"Agricultural Policy in Austria" by *Dr. Karl Schleinzner*, Federal Minister of Agriculture and Forestry in Austria

"Allocating Resources to Scientific Research" by *David Juckes*, an administrator in the OECD Directorate for Agriculture

"The Adviser as Agent for Change" by *P. R. Peachey*, Country Agricultural Advisor for the British Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food on the Isle of Wight

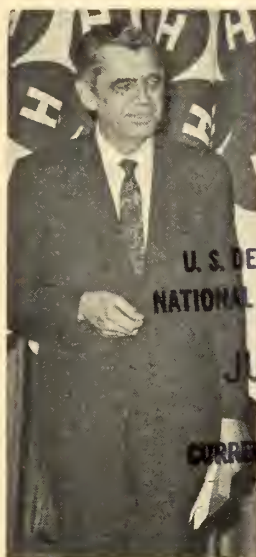
"Farm Mechanization in Sweden"

"New Cattle-Breeding System in Canada"

"Global Soil Map Boon to Planners"

Subscription rate for the *AGRICULTURAL REVIEW* is \$2.50 annually. Those interested in subscribing should write to: OECD Publications Center, Suite 1305, 1750 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, D.C. 20006.

About 105 million pounds of SOYBEAN PROTEIN PRODUCTS were used by U.S. food manufacturers in 1967. While this would make a lot of sauce, baked goods accounted for almost half of the total volume.



SECRETARY HARDIN was a favorite camera subject of 4-H Club members at the recent 4-H National Conference in Washington, D.C.

4-H'ers Meet for 39th National Conference

About 225 outstanding 4-H youth from the 50 States and Puerto Rico gathered in Washington, D.C., for the 39th Annual National 4-H Conference. Theme for the conference, held April 20-25, was "4-H: Tomorrow's Promise." Also attending the conference on an exchange basis were 10 4-H'ers from Canada and 2 young Japanese farmers participating in a 2-year Japanese-American agricultural training program.

Highlights of the conference included an address by Secretary Hardin, daily group meetings, tours of the Capital City, and a Friends of 4-H Day which honored nine private citizens as new "Partners in 4-H" and four firms and organizations with 4-H Crested Clovers for important contributions to 4-H.

Conference delegates were from among the 3¼ million 4-H'ers in the country's towns, cities, suburban and rural areas. Two girls and two boys from each State were selected for major achievements in community service, leadership, citizenship, and exceptional personal development. At this year's conference, delegates learned of increased opportunities 4-H offers today and reviewed important issues affecting 4-H in the future.

The conference was supervised by the Cooperative Extension Service. It was planned and conducted by the Federal Extension Service and the National 4-H Foundation, Washington, D.C., aided by the National 4-H Service Committee, Chicago.

CSC To Spearhead Summer Youth Program

President Nixon has asked the Civil Service Commission to spearhead the Federal Summer Employment Program for Youth, and to provide leadership and direction for the employment, utilization, supervision, and counseling of summer employees.

The President also asked the heads of Federal departments and agencies to hire, as part of their normal summer employment program, at least one needy young person for every 40 regular employees on their payrolls.

The CSC will issue instructions to Federal agencies informing them of the goals, providing guidelines for counseling, and establishing necessary reporting procedures.



USDA ARTIST, Rudolph A. Wendelin (left), receives from Under Secretary Phil Campbell this year's first Silver Smokey statuette, the "Oscar" of forest fire prevention. Wendelin was cited by the Advertising Council, Inc., the Forest Service, and the National Association of State Foresters for exceptional service in assuring that drawings and pictures reflect the personality of the Smokey Bear symbol. Wendelin became the principal artist for Smokey characterization and supporting graphic material in 1946. Since 1945, the symbol of the Smokey Bear Fire Prevention Campaign has been responsible for reducing man-caused forest fires by nearly 50 percent.

Graduate School Lists Course for Retirees

Successful Retirement, a new course designed to help people get the most from their retirement years, will be offered by the USDA Graduate School during the 1969 Summer session. Discussion topics include the importance of preparing for retirement, transition from the structured to unstructured life, place of work in the life cycle, financial planning and living arrangements in retirement, volunteer work, and travel. Couples are encouraged to register for the course.

Among courses offered for the evening Summer session, which begins June 2, are: *The American Negro Novel*, *Architecture of Washington, D.C.*, *The Potomac Valley*, *Conservation in Action*, and *Introduction to Ecology*.

Registration for these courses is May 26 through 31, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the first floor patio of the Administration Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, Washington, D.C.

The Graduate School is also offering Special Program courses in the Curriculum of Computer Sciences during May, June, and July. Nomination due dates for these daytime classes vary for each course. For further information on registration, contact: *Dr. J. F. Hendrick* or *Miss Luella Dever*, Area Code 202, DU 8-7630 or DU 8-7820.

Scientists Find New Leukemia Inhibitor Source

New sources of an enzyme used in clinical tests to inhibit leukemia have been found by Agricultural Research Service scientists. At the ARS Northern utilization research laboratory, Peoria, Ill., chemist *Robert E. Peterson*, and microbiologist *Dr. Alex Ceigler* screened 123 strains of bacteria for production of the enzyme, L-asparagine. Four other strains of bacteria were also found to yield the enzyme.

This enzyme breaks down an amino acid, asparagine. Destroying the amino acid inhibits the growth of leukemia cells but does not affect normal cells. Most leukemia cells need L-asparagine but, unlike normal cells, cannot make it.

The enzyme gives good results in clinical tests, but there is not enough from present sources for prolonged treatment.

The research by Peterson and Ceigler is part of a 28-year program of screening organisms in a collection at the Peoria laboratory for antibiotic production. First major development in the program was an industrial process for producing penicillin.



ROBERT E. PETERSON (left) and Dr. Alex Ceigler have found new sources for leukemia inhibitor.

ASCS Area Director Named

Secretary Hardin has announced the appointment of *Edward D. Hews*, a farmer from Presque Isle, Maine, as Northeast Area Director for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

In his new position, Hews will be headquartered in Washington, D.C., and will have general supervision of farm programs administered by ASCS in Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, and West Virginia.



MRS. COST REDUCTION, USDA

☆☆ For May 1969 ☆☆

Ever had trouble handling, storing, or rerunning used mimeograph stencils? MRS. KERRY J. IRVINE, Business Services Clerk with the Farmers Home Administration State office in Huron, S. Dak., suggests making a simple storage and file box for used stencils. She used an empty cardboard carton, two wooden dowels, and some lengths of wire. Stencils are attached to the wires by paper clips and hung from the dowels into the carton. Here they can dry without creasing or sticking together. Colored tabs attached to the paper clips help locate the needed stencil quickly. Total cost—90 cents. A commercial stencil storage box costs \$25. "I no longer worry about getting other papers or my clothing soiled," says Mrs. Irvine, a former model and runner-up for the 1969 Young Career Woman's Award sponsored by the Business and Professional Women's Society of Huron. Mrs. Irvine received a cash award of \$50 for adoption of her suggestion in the South Dakota office, plus a letter of commendation from Secretary Hardin. If your office is using mimeograph stencils, you should consider this idea. Be sure to contact your Employee Suggestions Coordinator. If you think your improvement ideas have application outside your office, please share them! We're holding this spot open for you next month.

Extension Teams Study Foreign Trade Opportunities

Three teams of U.S. agricultural economists left in April for a 3-week study of foreign market opportunities and trade policies in 15 countries of Asia and Europe. *Lloyd H. Davis*, Administrator, Federal Extension Service, said the teams will examine a wide range of factors affecting U.S. farm export prospects overseas. On their return they will report their findings to farmers and agribusinessmen.

All 12 economists on the mission are with the Cooperative Extension Service. The tour is sponsored by the National Agricultural Policy Committee in cooperation with the Foreign Agricultural Service and the Federal Extension Service.

LITTER ISN'T EVEN "FOR THE BIRDS"

Soon summer will be upon us, and our ears will be ringing with the slogan, "Don't be a litterbug . . . Keep America Beautiful!"

Not that summer is the only time we should be concerned with preventing litter. But it is during the summer that more litter finds itself blemishing our Nation's beauty.

Keep America Beautiful, Inc., in its war on litter, is distributing to newspapers, magazines, and other media throughout the country eight anti-litter conservation cartoons.

These cartoons (like the one to the right) were drawn by *Felix Summers*, Soil Conservation Service technical illustrator, and may be obtained from Keep America Beautiful, Inc., 99 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016.

Summers works for SCS at Lincoln, Nebr. For years his drawings and cartoons—some humorous, some philosophical—have helped tell the conservation story to millions of people in the United States and abroad.

The "cast of characters" for his drawings includes people, animals, and birds. Summers has prepared several special series for use in Hawaii and Puerto Rico for the Soil Conservation Society of America and for America the Beautiful, Inc. In addition, many of his drawings have been reproduced on cards and posters by the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

Summers began his art career in the 1930's as a New York mural painter. After a military stint during World War II, he went home to Mills County, Iowa, for a rest before returning to New York. As fate would have it, Summers never returned. During his "rest" he took a short-term appointment with SCS. He's



-- and man says pigeons 'fawl' up parks!

been with the agency since . . . in Iowa, Wisconsin, and Nebraska.

The Soil Conservation Service, in keeping with its tradition, champions the campaign against litter in many ways:

- It gives technical help to local communities for properly locating sanitary landfills for trash disposal.

- It makes litter control and cleanup a part of the project measures in more than 50 multi-county Resource Conservation and Development projects.

- It stresses litter control in helping in conservation education programs in schools and in developing school sites as outdoor learning laboratories. Initial cleanup of the outdoor sites is emphasized, and the school children are encouraged to take part in the project.

So this summer whether you are frolicking at the beach, cruising along the highway, or strolling through a park—remember, "Don't be a litterbug . . . Keep America Beautiful!"

Secretary Appoints New FHA State Directors

Secretary Hardin recently announced appointment of three new State Directors and one State Director-at-large for the Farmers Home Administration.

Michael C. Horan, Wenatchee, Wash., is the new appointee for the FHA position in the State of Washington. Horan operates orchards and a fruit packing and shipping facility, an enterprise of the Horan family for 70 years. He is the son of the late Congressman *Walt Horan* of Washington.

Farmer and building contractor *John A. Garrett* will serve as State Director for Alabama. A graduate in civil engineering, Garrett has operated a general contracting firm and a 600-acre livestock and crop farm near Montgomery, Ala., for the past 10 years.

Seelig Bartell Wise, Jonestown, Miss., is the new FHA State Director for Mississippi. He is a cotton and soybean farmer in the Mississippi Delta country.

Wise succeeds *Thomas B. Fatherree* who has been designated a State Director-at-large. In this position Fatherree will assist in the training of Southern State Directors and staff members and make special studies of program needs and administrative methods as a special representative of the national Administrator.

Plaque Marks Research Site

The nucleic acid research which won *Robert W. Holley* a 1968 Nobel Prize is commemorated in a bronze plaque recently mounted at USDA's Plant, Soil and Nutrition Laboratory at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.

At the brief presentation ceremony, *W. H. Allaway*, laboratory director, noted that this was the first time research from a USDA laboratory had been acknowledged by a Nobel award.

Holley, formerly with the Agricultural Research Service and now with Cornell, shared the \$70,000 prize with two other American professors who had conducted independent research on the interpretation of the genetic code and its function in protein synthesis.

Holley was the first to discover the group of small nucleic acids called "transfer" RNA's which play an important part in the process by which any living cell makes protein.

A story describing the prize-winning research appears in the 1968 Yearbook of Agriculture, *Science for Better Living*. The author, *Jean Apgar*, was a member of the research team working with Holley.



ROBERT W. HOLLEY (center) inspects the bronze plaque designed by his colleagues to commemorate his Nobel Prize-winning research. Chemists who assisted Holley in the project are: (left to right) G. A. Everett, Jean Apgar, S. H. Merrill, and J. T. Madison. (Photo: Ithaca Journal)

Horticulturist Cited by Government of El Salvador

Claud L. Horn, USDA horticulturist, has been awarded the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Diploma of Merit by the Government of El Salvador.

Presented by Agriculture Minister Antonio Berrios Mendoza earlier this year, the award cites Horn "for deserved recognition of his prestigious work of technical assistance to benefit the national agricultural development" of El Salvador. Horn, a member of the Agricultural Research Service, is team leader for the PASA (Participating Agency Service Agreement) between USDA and the State Department's Agency for International Development mission in El Salvador. He works out of the capital city of San Salvador.

PASA's are authorized under the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961. The act empowers AID to use its funds to draw on the technical competence of other Federal Departments in carrying out international assistance programs. The first such agreement between USDA and AID called for technical help in the agricultural development of El Salvador and was executed on



CLAUD L. HORN (right) and a Salvadoran technician inspect a newly erected livestock station in the hinterland of El Salvador.

May 1, 1963. Horn was named team leader of this PASA at its inception.

At that time the main source of human protein in this small, but important, Central American country was a type of shiny black bean which had become the target of numerous major diseases and at least seven insect pests. Visiting ARS scientists, through teamwork coordinated by Horn, assisted Salvadoran geneticists and entomologists in developing a bean breeding program designed to incorporate disease and insect resistance, high protein content, high yields, and color and flavor acceptance.

Other USDA scientists have worked

with the Salvadorans on improved livestock breeding, increased milk production, intensified research on edible oil-seed crops such as soybeans, peanuts, and sesame. In addition, under the El Salvador PASA local veterinarians have been learning the newest diagnostic techniques for identifying tuberculosis, brucellosis, and rabies in livestock.

Horn began his 41 years of Federal service in 1928 when he was assigned to the ARS station in the Virgin Islands. He was born in Bauxite, Ark., and received his degree from the Oklahoma State University of Agriculture and Applied Science.

APPOINTMENTS

DR. R. KEITH ARNOLD, Dean of the School of Natural Resources at the University of Michigan, has been named to head the research program of the Forest Service.

FS Chief Edward P. Cliff said Arnold would assume his new duties in Washington, D.C., at the end of the current school year. Arnold succeeds Dr. George M. Jemison, who retired in January.

As Deputy Chief of Research, Arnold will direct a national forestry research program including eight regional forest experiment stations, the Forest Products Laboratory, and the Institute of Tropical Forestry.

Previous to his University assignment, Arnold served as a fire research forester in California; as an assistant professor of forestry at the University of California at Berkeley; and, in 1957, was appointed as Director of the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, Berkeley. He transferred to the Forest Service's national office as Director of Forest Protection Research in 1963.

Secretary Hardin recently announced the following appointments to State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committees:

INDIANA—John D. Thompson, Owensville; Robert P. Murray, Frankfort; and Newell S. Timmons, Monticello.

WYOMING—Harold L. Jolley, Lovell; John M. Wilson, Alta; and Jack VanMark,



MOST GOVERNMENT AGENCIES have college student recruitment programs. But the Soil Conservation Service doesn't wait until youngsters reach college to impress them with the important work that SCS performs. Recently, 180 students of the Como Elementary School visited the SCS regional office in Fort Worth, Tex. The students saw movies of the conservation program, then toured the plant to see map-making, drafting, printing, soil testing, and other agency functions. This group was attracted by the collator-folder-stitcher machines in the Cartographic Unit. Their teacher (left, rear) is Clarence Russell, and the SCS employee (right) is C. B. Eason.

Torrington.

OHIO—Harle H. Hicks, Continental; Cline Gilpin, Sciotoville; and Reuben B. Jones, Circleville.

MISSOURI—John W. Hutcheson, Bolivar; Worth Bender, Bethany; and Barry

L. Richardson, Portageville.

SOUTH DAKOTA—Ohmer D. Cook, Cottonwood.

OREGON—Walter E. Erickson, The Dalles; Charles O. Burnet, Moro; and Curtis P. Barker, Roseburg.

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JUN 6 1969

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BELTSVILLE BRANCH

USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

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JUNE 5, 1969

A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

In a foreword to the 1969 USDA Honorary Awards Ceremony, Secretary Clifford M. Hardin said:

"President Nixon noted in his Inaugural Address: 'The second third of this century has been a time of proud achievement. We have made enormous strides in science and industry and agriculture. We have shared our wealth more broadly than ever, we've learned at last to manage a modern economy to assure its continued growth.'

"Today is a day for recognizing some of the talent, innovation, and determination that have contributed and are contributing to these proud achievements that promise ever greater things to come.

"I am especially happy to take part in this tribute to U.S. Department of Agriculture employees who are rendering outstanding services not only to the people of our own great nation, but also to people around the world.

"Today, and in the immediate future, we face great challenges which require of us the same exceptional service and devotion to duty that earned the awards being presented today. These are among the challenges we face:

- to raise farm income,
 - to adjust to agriculture's surplus capacity,
 - to expand present export markets for agricultural commodities and to develop new markets,
 - to provide good nutrition for Americans wherever the opportunity for an adequate diet does not now exist,
 - to create new jobs, and to provide homes and an attractive standard of living in rural America,
 - to assure that American food products are safe and wholesome,
 - to undergird the future with research,
 - to use wisely and improve the quality of our natural resources, and
 - to enlist the support and help of Americans in all walks of life in these endeavors.
- "I invite your full participation in meeting these challenges. . . ."

The 23rd Annual Honor Awards Ceremony was held Tuesday, May 20, in Washington, D.C.

Secretary Hardin presented Distinguished Service Awards to eight persons and one group of employees, and Superior Service Awards to 62 persons and 6 units.

The award-winning employees and groups represent 40 field headquarters and the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

1968-69 Winners of Major Non-USDA Awards

BARRY R. FLAMM, forestry advisor, Forest Service, International Forestry Staff, Saigon, Vietnam—Selected by the District of Columbia Junior Chamber of Commerce as one of the 10 outstanding young men in the Federal Government to win the 1969 Arthur S. Flemming Award.

RAYMOND A. IOANES, administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service, Washington, D.C.—Winner of the 1969 Career Service Award sponsored by the National Civil Service League to strengthen public service by bringing national recognition to significant careers in the Federal Service.

ODETTE SHOTWELL, research chemist, Agricultural Research Service, Peoria, Ill.—One of the 10 Outstanding Handicapped Federal Employees of 1968 given recognition under a new awards program sponsored by the Civil Service Commission to increase awareness of contributions being made by the handicapped.

EDWARD H. STONE, chief landscape architect, Forest Service, Washington, D.C.—Selected by District of Columbia Junior Chamber of Commerce as one of the 10 outstanding young men in the Federal Government to win the 1969 Arthur S. Flemming Award.

TERRENCE R. TURNER, director, USDA Management Data Service Center, Office of Management Improvement, New Orleans, La.—One of five winners of the 1968 Paperwork Management Award sponsored by the Association of Records Executives and Administrators to recognize the significant accomplishments of Government managers who have successfully developed programs to reduce Federal Government paperwork costs.

RUDOLPH A. WENDELIN, Office of Information staff artist serving as full-time art consultant to the Forest Service, Washington, D.C.—Recipient of the 1968 Horace Hart Award of the Education Council of the Graphic Arts Industry for distinguished service in the field of printing and publishing.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

Program Administration

ALFRED L. EDWARDS, *Office of the Secretary, Washington, D.C.*—For exceptional leadership and effectiveness in coordinating Department-wide programs and bringing together divergent views into a concerted effort particularly in programs affecting quality of environment, youth, and rural economic development.

KENNETH E. GRANT, *SCS, Washington, D.C.*—For outstanding leadership and dedication to the promotion of soil conservation and natural resources development in the interests of agricultural producers and the American public.

M. L. UPCHURCH, *ERS, Washington, D.C.*—For singular professional achievement and remarkable leadership in administering a broad program of economic research, lending invaluable assistance to the Department and the public in understanding and making decisions on agricultural and rural affairs.

Management and General Administration

CARL B. BARNES, *OP, Washington, D.C.*—For dynamic direction of personnel programs and for imagination and drive in developing new management concepts resulting in improved communications, organization, and more efficient manpower resource utilization.

Science, Engineering, and Technology

CRAIG C. CHANDLER, *FS, Arlington, Va.*—For eminent leadership and direction of cooperative research on the forest fire aspects of national defense.

GEORGE W. IRVING, Jr., *ARS, Washington, D.C.*—For unequalled efforts in the development and administration of effective scientific research on behalf of U.S. agriculture and the American consumer.

GUSTAV A. WIEBE, *ARS, Beltsville, Md.*—For wise and farsighted application of scientific advances to crop improvement and plant genetics through inspirational leadership and distinguished personal accomplishments in barley research.

WILLIAM J. ZAUMEYER, *ARS, Beltsville, Md.*—For notable research achievements in plant pathology and plant breeding, and for effective national and international research leadership in the improvement of vegetable legumes.

Group Achievement

SANDOVAL COUNTY TECHNICAL ACTION PANEL, *Bernalillo, N. Mex.*—For effective community development services performed for and with the people of Sandoval County, N. Mex.

SUPERIOR SERVICE AWARDS

Program Administration

JOHN O. BARNES, *FHA, Temple, Tex.*—For exemplary leadership of the Farmers Home Administration in Texas during a critical period when the State Director was disabled.

HUBERT P. BECKERS, *SCS, Billings, Mont.*—For excellence in providing leadership and direction to personnel; providing motivation for cooperation of concerned organizations; utilizing all available resources to accomplish conservation objectives and flood restoration in his area.

GLENN G. BIERMAN, *P&SA, Washington, D.C.*—For superlative leadership, skill, and vision in the direction and administration of the Packers and Stockyards Act.

WILLIAM M. BOST, *CES, State College, Miss.*—For complete unification of the staff, goals, and programs of the Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service to provide total service for betterment of the total population of the State.

LONNIE A. BURDETTE, *FHA, Louisville, Ga.*—For exceptional service to low-income rural families of Jefferson County, Ga., in helping them to become owners of decent, safe, sanitary, and attractive homes.

JAMES H. CARR, *FHA, Monticello, Miss.*—For providing unusually effective leadership and service in attaining Department objectives of better living standards and security for rural families and rural communities in Lawrence County, Miss.

CLIFFORD R. COLLINGS, *ASCS, Salt Lake City, Utah*—For extraordinary leadership and judgment in developing and administering agency programs in Utah; for personal dedication to soil and water conservation and to the advancement of the rural community.

SALLY K. EBLING, *CES, Cleveland, Ohio*—For unusual ability in analyzing the problems of the people of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, and outstanding skill in solving these problems through creative, imaginative, informative, and effective home economics educational programs.

EDMUND H. FARSTAD, *IADS, Saigon, Vietnam*—For exceptional energy, enthusiasm, technical competence, analytical ability, persistence, and diplomacy in developing and winning acceptance of programs to increase food production in Vietnam.

CARLYLE J. GAUGER, *CES, Ames, Iowa*—For imaginative leadership and exceptional initiative in building responsive 4-H and youth programs; for vision in planning new dimensions; and for courage in awakening forces for change.

ELINORE T. GREELEY, *C&MS, Washington, D.C.*—For remarkable ability in conducting a continuing effective standardization program affecting the processed foods industry and consumers; and for outstanding contributions to the U.S. committees responsible for international processed foods standards.

OLIVER E. HAGGLUND, *FHA, Atlantic, Iowa*—For unusual success in using the supervised credit programs of the Department to reduce rural poverty and for effective training of Assistant County Supervisors in Iowa.

WILLIAM E. HENRY, *FHA, Clinton, N.C.*—For meritorious service to agriculture and rural family life through unusually effective administration of supervised credit, technical assistance, and outreach programs in Sampson County, N.C.

JOHN L. HOOVER, *ASCS, Washington, D.C.*—For outstanding skill and leadership in automating farm production adjustment programs resulting in significant savings of time and money and in better service to farmers.

WILLIAM D. HURST, *FS, Albuquerque, N. Mex.*—For superior leadership and skill in administering a complex resource management program in furthering the Department's role of developing human resources and contributing to the economy of the rural Southwest.

NED W. JESTES, *SCS, Burnsville, N.C.*—For noteworthy achievement in planning and applying soil and water conservation, and for success in developing conservation leadership in rural communities of Yancey County.

AVARD B. LINFORD, *SCS, Bozeman, Mont.*—For dynamic leadership and initiative in formulating, coordinating, and managing an effective soil and water conservation program in Montana.

ARNOLD D. LUERS, *CES, Crown Point, Ind.*—For exceptional leadership in applying Extension education principles, programs, and resources toward solving complex social and economic problems in a highly industrial urban county.

FREDERICK S. MERRILL, *SCS, Canfield, Ohio*—For decisive leadership and initiative in developing and carrying out

the urban interpretation and application of soil survey data and its relationship to soil and water conservation in northeastern Ohio.

RALPH M. MILLS, *REA, Washington, D.C.*—For unique ability to solve difficult problems resulting in an unusual record of success in providing valuable service to rural areas of Alaska, Oklahoma, and other communities.

ARNOLD V. NORDQUIST, *SRS, Lincoln, Nebr.*—For exceptional creativity in developing an outstanding agricultural statistics program in the State of Nebraska; and for leadership in recognizing and meeting new data requirements and in fostering a greater public awareness of the use of agricultural data.

HOWARD B. PICKARD, *OGC, Washington, D.C.*—For distinctive service in directing the Department's responsibilities in the conduct of important litigation relating to Commodity Credit Corporation and Food Assistance Programs through effective and efficient management of legal resources.

MALINDA C. ROBINSON, *CES, Vicksburg, Miss.*—For significant achievement in recognizing the need for improved housing and nutrition among disadvantaged people of Vicksburg and Warren Counties and in instituting highly successful self-help programs to achieve these goals.

EINAR L. ROGET, *SCS, Little Rock, Ark.*—For dynamic leadership and vision in directing an exemplary program of soil and water conservation in New Mexico.

VICTOR A. SENECHAL, *ASCS, Washington, D.C.*—For superior leadership in developing and instituting new methods of apportioning the national wheat allotment which have substantially reduced government costs.

JOSEPH S. THURSTON, *CES, Greensburg, Pa.*—For strong leadership, coupled with unusual diplomacy, in organizing and helping urban and rural leaders to improve their area's economic, social, and educational facilities for the betterment of all in Westmoreland County, Pa.

FRED W. TRAEGER, *FAS, Manila, The Philippines*—For effectively representing American agricultural interests abroad and developing markets for U.S. agricultural exports, and for agricultural reporting.

JACK E. WARNER, *C&MS, San Francisco, Calif.*—For exceptional technical proficiency and public relations skill in the performance of regular and special assignments greatly facilitating the effective administration of the Federal meat grading service.

HOWARD H. WOODWORTH, *C&MS, Hyattsville, Md.*—For unusual initiative and effectiveness in working with varied groups to modernize the United States

Grain Standards Act for more efficient administration and great benefit to American agriculture.

Management and General Administration

TONY M. BALDAUF, P&O, Washington, D.C.—For responsive leadership, exceptional professional competence, keen analytical ability, and dedication in developing and directing an effective contracting and supply management program.

PATRICIA I. PAYLER, OMS, Washington, D.C.—For exemplary professional competence, productivity, and dedication greatly contributing to the effective execution of position classification and organization responsibilities to offices and agencies serviced by OMS.

DONALD W. SMITH, FS, Washington, D.C.—For substantial achievement in making Forest Service management systems responsive to today's fast changing needs through development of unique, farsighted workload analyses and planning methods.

LESLIE SURGINER, REA, Washington, D.C.—For exceptional vision and dynamic leadership in developing and administering management programs for borrower development which directly contribute to the success of the telephone and electric service in rural America.

JEROME A. MILES, B&F, Washington, D.C.—For dedicated leadership and professional competence as exemplified by his successful development, coordination, and execution of the budgetary and financial operations of the Department.

Science, Engineering, and Technology

LeROY O. ANDERSON, FS, Madison, Wis.—For creative technical accomplishments and contributions related to the effective use of forest products in housing, particularly as identified with the needs of rural America.

JOHN G. BOWNE, ARS, Denver, Colo.—For scientific leadership in advancing research on bluetongue disease of sheep and cattle.

THEODOR O. DIENER, ARS, Beltsville, Md.—For original research on plant viruses, leading to identification of a radically new type of virus and a greater understanding of plant virus-host interaction at the molecular level.

JAMES R. DONALD, ERS, Washington, D.C.—For important contributions to American agriculture in the field of cotton and wool demand and price analysis, and in developing significant and authoritative statistical series for cotton, wool, and other fibers widely used and accepted by all segments of the fibers industries.

WILLIAM B. ENNIS, Jr., ARS, Beltsville, Md.—For unusually keen perception and depth of understanding of weed, nematode, and plant disease problems as



RAY IOANES, left, Foreign Agricultural Service Administrator, winner of a 1969 Career Service Award of the National Civil Service League, is congratulated by two earlier winners. Center is Ralph S. Roberts, former Assistant Secretary for Administration, now Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Budget, 1961 winner. Right is Edward P. Cliff, Chief of the Forest Service, 1968 winner. Four other employees have received earlier awards: Richard Cotton, 1956; Richard E. McArdle, 1958; Lyle T. Alexander, 1959; and Horace D. Godfrey, 1967.

they relate to farmers and industry, and their solution through outstanding, complex research by scientists under his leadership.

JAMES O. GRANDSTAFF, CSRS, Washington, D.C.—For notable leadership and professional competence in establishing and maintaining high standards of research evaluation and effective coordination within the USDA-State cooperative research programs.

JOSEPH NAGHSKI, ARS, Wyndmoor, Pa.—For significant contributions to agriculture, consumers, and industry through inspiring leadership resulting in more serviceable leathers and enhanced utilization of hides and skins.

A. PERRY PLUMMER, FS, Ephraim, Utah—For outstanding diligence and skill in developing a strong research program on game range improvement in cooperation with Utah Division of Fish and Game and for obtaining widespread application of results.

ELROY M. POHLE, C&MS, Denver, Colo.—For developing and implementing objective grade standards for domestic and foreign wool, resulting in more orderly marketing and better trade relationships between all segments of the national and international wool and mohair industries.

LAMBERTUS H. PRINCEN, ARS, Peoria, Ill.—For significant achievements in application of basic research to practical problems in emulsion technology, particularly linseed oil paints.

WALTON R. SMITH, FS, Asheville, N.C.—For exceptional leadership in developing, implementing, and bringing to fruition research in marketing and utilization of forest resources that will further the attainment of the Department's technological and sociological goals.

GUY E. SPRINGER, SCS, Traverse City, Mich.—For meritorious leadership and initiative in environmental engineering by developing new techniques for land reform and air drainage in cherry or-

chards, a significant advancement in fruit production.

RUSSELL L. STEDMAN, ARS, Wyndmoor, Pa.—For dynamic leadership in planning and performing complex studies designed to clarify relationships between smoking and health.

WESLEY B. SUNDQUIST, ERS, Washington, D.C.—For combining outstanding professional and administrative skills, exceptionally imaginative leadership, and unusual dedication in directing an economic research program that is highly relevant to emerging questions and issues.

JAMES VERMEER, ERS, Washington, D.C.—For meritorious service to the Department and to the Nation through timely and effective economic evaluations of present and proposed government farm production control and price support programs.

ROBERT E. WESTER, ARS, Beltsville, Md.—For superior accomplishments in lima bean breeding, culminating in the development of improved, disease-resistant varieties that have greatly contributed to the lima bean industry.

LEWIS L. YARLETT, SCS, Gainesville, Fla.—For professional creativity and leadership in increasing the understanding and development of rangeland resources, resulting in increased income to livestock producers in Florida, the southern United States, and Central America.

Achievement by Support Personnel

PAUL L. CLARK, FS, Malad City, Idaho—For extraordinary services in administering the range resource on the Curlew National Grasslands.

WILLIAM J. COYKENDALL, C&MS, San Francisco, Calif.—For excellence in providing centralized reproduction and distribution services to program offices of the Consumer and Marketing Service in the San Francisco area.

LORETTA B. GIORDANO, C&MS, Arlington, Va.—For extremely competent

performance of duties far exceeding normal grade requirements, and for outstanding contributions in developing a new approach to detecting compliance irregularities under the Food Stamp Program.

MOLLIE J. ILER, IADS, Washington, D.C.—For substantial contribution to USDA overseas activities while serving as administrative assistant in attaché posts abroad, and as secretary to the administrator of the International Agricultural Development Service.

MARY C. KEEGAN, SCS, Temple, Tex.—For superior secretarial assistance which resulted in exceptional efficiency in the office of the Texas State Conservationist and contributed materially to effective conservation operations throughout the State.

PEGGY M. OSUGA, C&MS, Denver, Colo.—For noteworthy contributions to the Livestock Market News and Meat Grading Programs in Colorado through continued excellence in supervising the clerical and administrative functions of the Livestock Consolidated Office in Denver.

SANTOS A. SANDOVAL, C&MS, Los Angeles, Calif.—For exceptional initiative and sustained superior performance in improving effectiveness of the Food Stamp Program with special recognition for ability to establish and maintain good communications with Spanish-speaking residents.

Heroic Action

WILLIAM J. BADEN, FS, Bakersfield, Calif.—For courageous action in rescuing a dying pilot from a crashed and burning helicopter.

NATHANIEL E. FINE, FES, Phan Thiet, Vietnam—For extreme bravery, though wounded and under constant enemy fire, in providing covering fire to help rescue a nine-man Free World medical team during the Tet Offensive in South Vietnam.

DONATO GONZALES, ASCS, Brighton, Colo.—For unusual courage and competence, without consideration for his own life, in rescuing and reviving a farm owner who was overcome by insecticide fumes while fumigating a grain bin.

WILBUR L. RUSSELL, C&MS, Memphis, Tenn.—For courageous action in reporting and cooperating with officials to expose a bribery conspiracy which prevented untold monetary loss to the Government and led to the conviction of the conspirators.

Group Achievement

ATHENS WORK UNIT, SCS, Athens, Tex.—For technical assistance to local people, resulting in an effective soil, water, and plant conservation program which significantly improved economic conditions of farm families and rural communities.

EDDY COUNTY TECHNICAL ACTION PANEL, Carlsbad, N. Mex.—For invaluable services rendered to residents of Eddy County in planning and implementing social and economic development projects.

FIREFIGHTING UNIT, FS, Santa Barbara, Calif.—For courageous group action in rescuing an injured pilot from a crashed helicopter in the path of a wildfire.

FLAME RESISTANT COTTON RESEARCH GROUP, ARS, New Orleans, La.—For brilliant research leading to the discovery of a new, durable flame retardant, and to its application to lightweight cottons to produce flame retardant fabrics with 100 percent tensile strength retention and excellent hand.

PUERTO RICO PROJECT, ARS, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico—For raising agricultural productivity of steep lands in Puerto Rico; developing agricultural management systems for intensive crop production in the humid tropics; and contributing leadership to Latin American agricultural agencies.

SUMTER COUNTY TECHNICAL ACTION PANEL, Bushnell, Fla.—For providing exemplary leadership to the people of Sumter County, Fla., in identifying rural problems and in making the services of all agencies more effective in solving these problems.

1969 JUMP MEMORIAL AWARD

The William A. Jump Memorial Award is presented annually to Federal employees under age 37 in recognition of outstanding service in the field of public administration. The Award is given in memory of *William A. Jump*, who for many years was the distinguished Budget and Finance Officer of the Department of Agriculture. This year's winners are:

CLAYTON E. McMANAWAY, Jr., coordinator of planning, civil operations, and revolutionary development support, Vietnam, Agency for International Development—For outstanding contributions in Vietnam to the success of Operation Recovery following the Viet Cong Tet Offensive, to the Accelerated Pacification Campaign, and to the establishment of the Central Pacification and Development Council.

DAVID A. SWANKIN, director, Bureau of Labor Standards, Wage and Labor Standards Administration, Department of Labor—For exceptional performance in improving occupational safety and health standards of wage earners and in organizing work to protect consumer interests.

Attaché to Turkey Named

Dr. Harry R. Varney was recently named as agricultural attaché on the staff of the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, Turkey. He replaces *Joseph R. Williams* who returned to Washington, D.C., for reassignment.

Varney, who joined the Foreign Agricultural Service in 1957, has served as attaché to Indonesia, Sweden, Pakistan, and the Republic of South Africa.



WINN F. FINNER (left), Associate Administrator, Consumer and Marketing Service, and E. R. Draheim, Office of Personnel, discuss the 1969 National Savings Bond Campaign with television star, Eva Gabor. Miss Gabor, Honorary Chairman, was in Washington, D.C., to attend a kick-off rally. Draheim is "technical assistant" to Secretary Hardin for USDA's participation in the campaign which got underway in April. Since then, 412 new bond buyers have joined USDA's payroll savings bond plan.

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

JUNE 5, 1969

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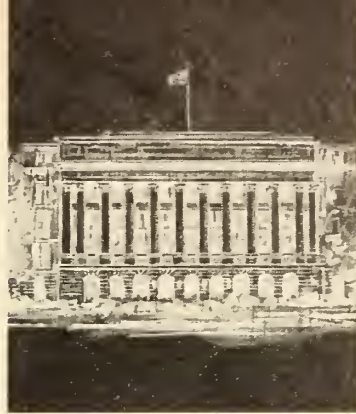
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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

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JULY 3, 1969

USDA Clubs Promote "Getting To Know You"

In 1920, *Edwin T. Meredith*, then Secretary of Agriculture, made a dismaying discovery when he visited USDA offices during a cross-country trip. He found that employees of some offices were not acquainted with the employees of other USDA offices in the same city. Some had but casual knowledge of other Department agencies; some did not even know their agency was a part of the Department of Agriculture.

Secretary Meredith, determined to alleviate this situation, suggested that Department employees form local organizations in field centers for the purpose of getting to know each other and to learn of each others work and the work of the Department.

Thus was born the USDA Club program.

The first USDA Club was formed in San Francisco in 1920. Others blossomed in Denver, Albuquerque, New York City, and Portland, Oreg., until by 1926 there were 29 clubs in 22 States.

In the following years, USDA Clubs had their ups and downs. In 1939, only six clubs were active. Intensive organizing activity brought the number of clubs to a peak of 87 shortly after World War II. This number dropped to 20 in 1961. Through the interest of *Joseph Robertson*, Assistant Secretary for Administration, and *Carl B. Barnes*, Office of Personnel Director, the number doubled to the present 41 active clubs.

All USDA personnel working in the club areas are eligible for membership. This includes those with collaborator or agent appointments and those employed part-time. Persons not employed by the Department may also be members at the invitation of the club. In Dallas, for instance, the USDA Club membership is a cross section of community leaders in agriculture and home economics—bankers, farmers, educators, commercial firms, public service companies, lawyers, and USDA personnel.

The character of USDA Clubs reflects the varied interests and work assignments of USDA employees. This variety



USDA CLUB INSIGNIA shows the seal of the Department of Agriculture surrounded by six bars denoting the six objectives of the program.

is evident in the Atlanta club where the 400 members represent 10 USDA agencies.

Under general supervision of the Office of Personnel, the programs, activities, and organization of the clubs are tailored to the needs of individual club locality. Several clubs conduct employee welfare-type activities—group trips, buyers clubs, and recreational facilities.

The Jackson, Miss., club has sponsored pre-retirement planning sessions for members. A number of clubs, including those in Minneapolis and Kansas City, hold ceremonies for annual employee awards presentations. Many clubs issue directories of local USDA and USDA Club activities, facilitating proper handling of public inquiries and promoting liaison between Department employees.

Monthly club meetings often include speakers from the Washington or regional offices, project or research leaders, and local agency heads. In fact, USDA Club officials are authorized to contact Department officials at all levels to arrange for their services as speakers or other assistance in carrying out club activities.

Often, too, farmers and others in the public are invited to speak at club meetings to present ways in which they feel the Department might better serve them.

Within this flexible and varied program, USDA Club objectives remain the same as intended by Secretary Meredith. Formally stated, these are: (1) To stim-

LOVVORN DESIGNATED CSRS ADMINISTRATOR

Secretary Hardin recently announced the appointment of *Dr. Roy Lee Lovvorn* as Administrator of the Cooperative State Research Service. As Administrator, Dr. Lovvorn will oversee Federal grant programs for agricultural research in 50 States and Puerto Rico.

Dr. Lovvorn has been Director of Research for the School of Agriculture and Life Sciences at North Carolina State University, Raleigh. Earlier he served as a county agent in Missouri, as an agronomist with the Soil Conservation Service, and then as professor and Director of Instruction in the School of Agriculture at North Carolina State. He served for a time as head of weed investigations for the Agricultural Research Service in Beltsville, Md. He also has been a consultant on agricultural research to the Governments of Brazil, Peru, and India.

Dr. Lovvorn was born at Woodland, Ala. He earned his B.S. degree in agronomy at Auburn University, his M.S. at the University of Missouri, and his Ph.D. in agronomy from the University of Wisconsin in 1942.

In 1959, Dr. Lovvorn was honored by *The Progressive Farmer* magazine as "Man of the Year in Service to Agriculture," and in 1968 he received the "Distinguished Service to Agriculture" award of Gamma Sigma Delta, agricultural honorary society.

He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Society of Agronomy and past president of Gamma Sigma Delta.

ulate and increase knowledge of the work of the Department among the employees; (2) To assist through personal contact the interpretation of the Department's services to the public; (3) To provide a channel for the Department's many activities to be informally correlated for the best possible service to the public; (4) To stimulate training and education among employees; (5) To develop personal acquaintances among employees; (6) To promote employee welfare.

Pesticide Effects Studied

Persistent pesticides and their effects on man, agriculture, and the environment is the subject of a report recently released by Secretary Hardin. The report was prepared at the request of USDA by a committee of the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council.

In general, the report pointed to adequate protection of man's food and health under the present systems of controls. However, the report recommended expanded research leading to the development of new pesticidal chemicals and techniques for using them, and the strengthening of the regulation and monitoring of persistent pesticides to provide long-range protection for wildlife and the overall environment.

"The committee's appraisal of the situation relating to persistent pesticides appears to be reasonable and balanced," Secretary Hardin said. "Its conclusions and recommendations imply some changes in Department programs that will require some additional time for full evaluation."

The NAS-NRC committee of 15 scientists conducted an 18-month study under a 1967 contract by the Agricultural Research Service. The committee heard 83 principal witnesses from scientific and conservation organizations, industry, universities, and government agencies.

Farrington Named ASCS Deputy Administrator

Carl C. Farrington, Minneapolis, Minn., has been named Deputy Administrator for Commodity Operations of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

Farrington brings to ASCS many years of experience in all phases of commodity operations, including nearly 20 years with USDA. He was an assistant administrator in charge of the Commodity Credit Corporation and a CCC vice-president when he left in 1948 to manage the Grain Division of Archer-Daniels-Midland Co., Minneapolis.

In returning to the Department, Farrington will be responsible for procurement and sales and inventory management operations carried out by the ASCS. The major part of these operations involve inventories acquired by the CCC in its price-support operations.

PLENTIFUL FOODS

USDA's July list. Featured are *fresh peaches*. Other plentiful include: *Rice, summer vegetables, and watermelons*.



BENNIE RICHARD (left), construction supervisor for the self-help housing development at Batchelor, La., discusses the project with (left to right) Nimrod Andrews, county supervisor for the Farmers Home Administration; Jim Binder, president of the Batchelor Self-Help Homes Association; and members of one of eight families who built their own homes with assistance from the FHA.

FHA AND THE SELF-HELP HOMEBUILDERS

Eight low-income rural families of Batchelor, La., combined their muscle power with loan funds from the Farmers Home Administration to construct attractive and comfortable homes for themselves.

While FHA county supervisor *Nimrod Andrews* completed loan docket for the families, *Bennie Richard*, an experienced builder from New Roads, La., instructed the families in basic carpentry and other skills in homebuilding. Richard also served as construction supervisor as the Batchelor families did most of the construction on their homes—and saved more than \$3,000 each. FHA advanced loans of \$6,400 to each family to buy materials and pay contracted costs on the brick veneer, ranch-style homes, valued up to \$10,300.

Each family will have 33 years to repay the loans at \$34 monthly, just slightly more than some rents on the weatherbeaten shacks from which they moved. For many of the children, the

new homes mean they will enjoy the comfort of an inside bathroom and water for the first time as well as a snug home.

To mark completion of the housing project, FHA Administrator *James V. Smith* recently traveled to the east-central Louisiana community for dedication of the new homes. He presented a large symbolic key to *Jim Binder*, president of the Batchelor Self-Help Homes Association, and used the occasion to give a gold-painted shovel to another group of self-help families who were scheduled to break ground the following day on their development at Valverde, La.

Secretary of Agriculture Is Member of New Council

President Nixon recently appointed a special Cabinet-level council to develop ways of halting "the declining quality of the American environment."

The eight-member group, called the Committee on Environmental Quality, was charged with developing programs and technology for preventing man from fouling his surroundings.

The Council will be composed of the Vice President and the Secretaries of Agriculture; Commerce; Health, Education, and Welfare; Housing and Urban Development; Interior; and Transportation. The President will preside over its meetings.

Dr. Lee A. Dubridge, the President's chief adviser on science and technology, will serve as executive director. He said the priority of the Council will be given to problems such as air pollution, disposal of solid wastes, and to studies to determine if DDT and other insecticides have intolerable side-effects. Later studies would concentrate on improving or finding a substitute for the internal combustion engine for automobiles to eliminate smog-generating exhausts.

Research Center Dedicated

The new U.S. Meat Animal Research Center at Clay Center, Nebr., was recently dedicated by Secretary Hardin.

Work at the Center will be conducted by the Agricultural Research Service and the Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station, and will cover animal science, livestock engineering, meat technology, and forage and range research on beef cattle, sheep, and hogs.

The research program is being developed with the aid of an advisory committee composed of Federal, State, and industry representatives. The program will complement and enlarge research conducted by Federal and State agencies.

The 35,000-acre Center, which was authorized in June 1964, has been stocked with foundation herds of 3,500 beef cattle and 2,500 sheep. Foundation herds of hogs will be added as soon as housing is available.

FS COMMEMORATES DARING EXPLOIT

Campfires are twinkling again in the same natural setting where 100 years ago Major John Wesley Powell and his men braved the unknown canyons and rapids of two of the West's mightiest rivers—the Green and the Colorado.

This summer visitors to the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area can retrace history along part of the explorers' route. At the popular recreation spot on the Ashley National Forest in eastern Utah, Forest Service personnel have identified and marked campsites used by Powell and his nine-man crew. Exhibits describing the harrowing journey are on display at visitors centers; campfire programs feature the Disney movie, "Ten Who Dared," based on Powell's exploits.

Within the boundaries of the recreation area are colorful and stately canyons described in Powell's journal and still bearing the names he gave them—Flaming Gorge, Horseshoe, Red, and Kingfisher.

It was on May 24, 1869, that Powell, a noted geologist and Civil War hero, left with his men from Green River City, Wyo. They headed down the turbulent Green River aboard four sturdy, spe-



A 6-CENT POSTAGE STAMP honoring John Wesley Powell will be issued August 1 at Page, Ariz. near the lake that bears his name. Design of the stamp was unveiled on May 24 at Green River, Wyo., where Powell's 3-month journey began 100 years before. The stamp was designed by Rudolph Wendelin, USDA artist assigned to the Forest Service in Washington, D.C. This is the fourth postage stamp designed by Wendelin, well-known for his work as the Smokey Bear artist.

cially constructed boats. The party's goals were to explore, survey, and map the unknown country along the Green and Colorado.

Three months later—on August 29, 1869—the epic, 1,000-mile river journey ended when the men emerged from the Grand Canyon of the Colorado in northern Arizona. The story of this perilous trip through spectacular, mile-deep canyons, raging rapids, and hostile Indian country, is one of America's most exciting true adventure tales.

In 1881 Powell became director of the U.S. Geological Survey. He later served as head of the Reclamation Bureau of

the Interior Department and as director of the Bureau of Ethnology at the Smithsonian Institution.

Powell's daring journey and his later work and writings led to further explorations that helped build the foundation for land reform and land conservation programs. By encouraging establishment of forest preserves in the public domain, he was a pioneer in promoting the National Forest System.

Thanks to the courage and foresight of the remarkable Major Powell, Americans of 1969 are enjoying the same magnificent vistas of river and canyon he saw a century ago.

AWARDS

DR. ERLING D. SOLBERG, a pioneer researcher in rural land planning and zoning, was recently awarded a Citation of Merit by the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society.

In making the presentation, the Society noted that Dr. Solberg "has done more than anyone else in the codification of County, Town, and Rural zoning ordinances and statutes in order that our land heritage can best be preserved in conjunction with urban development."

Dr. Solberg, who retired in 1968 after 30 years with the Economic Research Service and its predecessor agencies, has long been one of the Nation's most widely known authorities on rural land zoning regulations, forest crop laws, and land-use controls.

A prolific writer, Dr. Solberg had more than 60 publications to his credit at the time of his retirement. For the past year, he has worked as a re-employed annuitant to complete a major manuscript he started several years ago.

FLOYD IVERSON, regional forester of the Forest Service's Intermountain Region in Ogden, Utah, is the winner of a 1969 American Motors Conservation Award.

The awards are presented annually to 10 professional and 10 non-professional conservationists for dedicated efforts in the field of renewable natural resources.

Iverson, along with the other winners, received a bronze medallion from American Motors' board chairman, Roy D. Chapin, Jr., at a recent ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Iverson also received a \$500 honorarium accompanying the award.



THE VIVID SCENERY and swift waters of the Red Canyon Gorge of the Green River in Utah lay on the route of the Powell expedition. In some places, Powell's men maneuvered their boats through river currents of up to 20 miles an hour.

USDA Goes to Camp

In the kitchen of a summer camp near Annapolis, Md., the camp cook prepares a meal for 400 young appetites whetted by fresh air, swimming, and hiking. Included in the tasty, filling, and nutritious meal are cheese, peanut butter, chopped meat, and rice. These foods, as well as the flour, corn meal, butter, and several other foods in the kitchen larder, were donated to the camp by USDA.

This year USDA will help thousands of non-profit summer camps for children to improve the nutrition of their feeding operations with about \$2,600,000 worth of food.

With some 1,500,000 children expected to attend 6,900 camps this year, the Commodity Distribution Division of the Consumer and Marketing Service has been alerting camp directors and managers of USDA services focusing on improved feeding and child nutrition.

Besides the foods already mentioned, dry beans, bulgur, corn grits, lard/shortening, nonfat dry milk, rolled oats, and rolled wheat are available from C&MS.

BARNES WINS STOCKBERGER AWARD



C. B. BARNES

Carl B. Barnes, USDA's Director of Personnel, received the Warner W. Stockberger Achievement Award in recent ceremonies held in Washington, D.C.

The award, the highest in the field of personnel administration, is presented annually by the Society for Personnel Administration to the person judged to have made the greatest contribution in the field of personnel management. The award is named for Warner W. Stockberger, a pioneer in personnel administration in the Federal Government and first USDA personnel director.

The Stockberger Award cited Barnes for "his exceptional accomplishments in personnel management that have made the Department of Agriculture an outstanding model in the field and have significantly influenced personnel practices throughout the Federal Government."



SWIMMING RANKS AS the favorite summer camp activity. However, cooks at summer camps for children will agree: Mealtime is a close second.

The donated foods are delivered free at central locations in the States.

All camps receiving Federal foods

WHAT TOOLS DO YOU USE FOR DIGGING UP ANSWERS?

Every business day, in-boxes of Department employees are flooded with letters asking questions as: "What agricultural information is available on the countries on the Balkan Peninsula?" Or "What are some leading farm magazines?" Or "What are some recipes for making corn whisky and how many 'stills' were smashed last year?"

Answering questions is an essential USDA function in serving John Q. Public. But sometimes a question requires doing research.

Just as a carpenter works better when he knows the names of his tools, you can work better if you know the names of reference tools.

Robert L. Birch, an agricultural librarian and USDA Graduate School instructor, recently compiled a list of first-step references that make info-digging easier.

Listed below are a few of these commonplace tools.

(1) *Subject Guide to Books in Print*. This bibliography lists books now on the U.S. market by subject and title.

(2) *Encyclopedia of American Associations*. This listing gives a description and location, using a key word of the title, of associations for or against almost anything.

(3) *Facts on File*. Gives highly condensed bone-up material on almost anything that has been in the headlines; includes an index. For instance, "Nixon farm statement" is under the heading "Agriculture."

must comply with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 in that no child may be denied admission because of race, color, or national origin.

To help their food service personnel, summer camps may use USDA booklets or fact sheets for donated foods, giving recipes, storage information, and tips for buying and using foods that are in plentiful supply.

(4) *Current Biography*. A brief profile on anyone who has been in the news but has not yet been enshrined in "Who's Who," including their office and residence address.

(5) *New York Times Index*. An index to articles in the New York Times on any person or subject covered. Also gives approximate date same story was carried in other newspapers.

(6) *Agricultural Statistics*. Includes detailed tables and statistics on crops, exports, food costs, etc.

(7) *Yearbook of Agriculture*. Each year a different topic is explored. The 1962 volume, "After A Hundred Years," is a history of the Department and a round-up of its programs.

(8) *Bibliography of Agriculture*. An index to agricultural literature from all over the world. The "B-of-A" also includes a checklist of new Department and State experiment station publications.

(9) *Literature of Agricultural Research*. Probably the best guide to agricultural research literature.

So the next time you are asked a question, find the answer quickly and pleasantly. If your office doesn't have many reference books handy or if you aren't near USDA's National Agricultural Library, check the reference section of your local library.

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JULY 3, 1969

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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVIII NO. 15
JULY 17, 1969

GOOD FOOD IS AN ADDED ATTRACTION

Thousands of needy youngsters taking part in summer recreation programs are finding that summertime is better than ever this year. It is better because of a new USDA food service program which offers an added attraction to the youngsters' recreation and fun—tasty and nutritious meals and between-meal snacks.

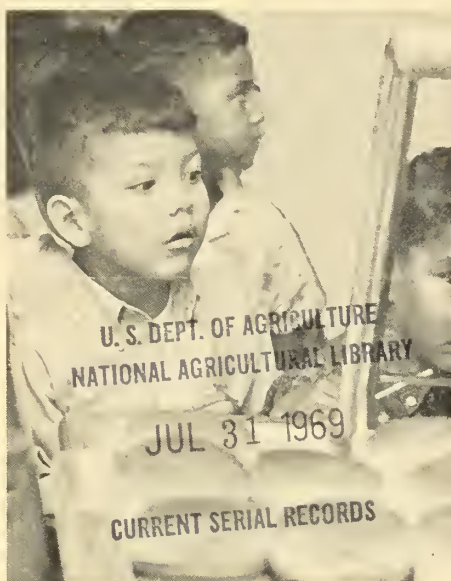
The Special Food Service Program for Children is a 3-year pilot program authorized by a 1968 amendment to the National School Lunch Act. Its goal is to improve the nutrition of pre-school and school-age children by helping provide snacks and up to three meals a day to youngsters in out-of-school activities.

Under the new program, which is administered by the Consumer and Marketing Service cooperatively with State agencies, foods for use in meal preparation as well as cash reimbursements for the meals are provided by USDA. Maximum reimbursement is 15 cents for each breakfast, 30 cents for each lunch or supper, and 10 cents for between-meal snacks.

Major metropolitan areas, smaller cities, and communities across the country are operating summer recreation programs. In as many of these as possible, USDA's Special Food Service Program for Children is helping provide the youngsters from low-income families with nutritious food. Public and non-profit private participants eligible for the program include summer day camps, school-sponsored recreation programs, and similar recreation programs.

The program is not, however, limited to summer or recreation programs. Day-care centers, settlement houses, and recreation centers that provide day-care for children in low-income areas or from areas with many working mothers may also apply.

Today, the livestock and meat industry produces 12 billion MORE POUNDS OF MEAT than 20 years ago. This provides an additional 29 pounds of meat per person to a population that has increased by 53 million people.



SAN DIEGO, TEX., launched the first Special Food Service Program for Children in the Southwest on June 2. Approximately 500 youngsters receive free breakfast and lunch at the school cafeteria during a summer recreation program.

REA YOUTH TOUR A THOUSAND STRONG

One thousand high school juniors, from 26 States, visited Washington, D.C., recently as guests of their home community rural electric cooperatives.

These young people were chosen to take the Annual Rural Electrification Administration Youth Tour through competitive examinations conducted by their local electric cooperatives in conjunction with area high schools.

The State groups visited USDA and the Rural Electrification Administration. They were shown special displays in the USDA Administration Building Patio, taken on a short tour, and entertained with a slide presentation, "A Look Into the Future."

In addition the groups visited many of their congressmen and senators, the White House, and scenic and historic sites in the Washington area.

REA Administrator David A. Hamil greeted several of the groups in his office and was a guest speaker at one of their meetings.

Adamson Named Deputy Assistant Secretary

Secretary Hardin recently announced appointment of *Elvin A. Adamson*, a member of Nebraska's unicameral legislature since 1961 and its former speaker, as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Marketing and Consumer Services.

Adamson is president and part owner of a 23,000-acre cattle ranch near Valentine, Nebr., where he was born and reared. He attended Nebraska State Teachers College at Chadron and the University of Colorado before receiving his A.B. degree in political science and economics from the University of Nebraska in 1940.

He is president of the Nebraska Stock Growers Association and a member of the American National Cattlemen's Association.

Secretary Appoints Two As FHA State Directors

Secretary Hardin recently appointed *Douglas W. Young*, a mortgage credit specialist, as State director of the Farmers Home Administration for California.

At the same time, the Secretary appointed *Kenneth L. Bowen* as FHA State director for Nebraska.

In his new position, Young also will be responsible for FHA activity in Nevada and Hawaii. Throughout the three States the agency administers a program of loans and grants for family farms as well as for housing and community facilities in rural areas.

Before joining a Bakersfield brokerage firm in 1966, Young worked for 8 years as appraiser, field representative, and assistant office manager of the Federal Land Bank and Production Credit Association.

Bowen, as new Nebraska FHA State director, will administer loan programs for family farm operations and for housing and community facilities which last year totaled nearly \$30 million.

Since 1967, Bowen has been executive secretary and treasurer of the League of Nebraska Municipalities.

WANT TO BUILD A HOUSE? HERE'S HOW—

Shelter is still one of mankind's three basic needs, and the new Forest Service how-to-do-it manual, "Low-Cost Wood Homes for Rural America," gives all the answers for constructing an inexpensive shelter.

Step by step, from initial selection of the site to refinements of interior finish, construction of a low-cost house is detailed in this new handbook for the prospective homeowner.

The booklet was prepared by *LeRoy Anderson*, wood structural engineer at the Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wis., and helped earn for its author a USDA Superior Service Award recently. The booklet's introduction states its dedication to "making economical, improved housing more readily available to the rural families of America." This guideline is followed throughout.

A glossary of housing terms is included for the layman who has difficulty telling the professional lumber and hardware merchants what he wants.

"Low-Cost Wood Homes for Rural America—Construction Manual" (Agriculture Handbook No. 364) is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. The price is \$1.

USDA Food for Flood Victims

Thousands of people in seven California counties recently benefited from USDA-donated food, prepared and served to them by local disaster-relief agencies and volunteers. These people were the victims of extensive floods this past winter and spring which left them displaced, homeless, and without food and facilities for feeding themselves.

As soon as the California crisis subsided, disaster moved eastward. Near-record snowpack began to melt in the Rockies and the Midwest with predictions of a Midwest flood crisis much more extensive than the one in California.

USDA workers prepared to face it by storing USDA food throughout the threatened areas—at several locations in Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Illinois, and Missouri.

The first need came in Sioux City, Iowa. There USDA food was requested to feed 200 high school volunteers who worked to sandbag the Missouri River. The most critical site was Minot, N. Dak., where the floods left more than 1,600 persons homeless.

An estimated 140,000 pounds of USDA food was provided during the Midwest flood crisis.

GENERAL SCHEDULE - 5 U.S.C. 5332(a)

GS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	\$ 3889	\$ 4019	\$ 4149	\$ 4279	\$ 4408	\$ 4538	\$ 4668	\$ 4798	\$ 4928	\$ 5057
2	4360	4505	4650	4795	4940	5085	5230	5375	5520	5665
3	4917	5081	5245	5409	5573	5737	5901	6065	6229	6393
4	5522	5706	5890	6074	6258	6442	6626	6810	6994	7178
5	6176	6382	6588	6794	7000	7206	7412	7618	7824	8030
6	6882	7111	7340	7569	7798	8027	8256	8485	8714	8943
7	7639	7894	8149	8404	8659	8914	9169	9424	9679	9934
8	8449	8731	9013	9295	9577	9859	10141	10423	10705	10987
9	9320	9631	9942	10253	10564	10875	11186	11497	11808	12119
10	10252	10594	10936	11278	11620	11962	12304	12646	12988	13330
11	11233	11607	11981	12355	12729	13103	13477	13851	14225	14599
12	13389	13835	14281	14727	15173	15619	16065	16511	16957	17403
13	15812	16339	16866	17393	17920	18447	18974	19501	20028	20555
14	18531	19149	19767	20385	21003	21621	22239	22857	23475	24093
15	21589	22309	23029	23749	24469	25189	25909	26629	27349	28069
16	25044	25879	26714	27549	28384	29219	30054	30889	31724	
17	28976	29942	30908	31874	32840	General Schedule-Effective July 13, 1969				
18	33495					USDA-Office of Personnel				

July Brings Pay Increase and Program Revisions

A pay increase for employees and major revisions in three Government-wide programs all became effective this month.

The pay increase is the last of three salary adjustments authorized by the Federal Salary Act of 1967. Previous increases under this Act were in October 1967 and July 1968. The increase affects about 2 million full-time employees with rates of increase ranging from 3 percent to 10.8 percent. The overall increase for employees in the General Schedule averages 9.1 percent.

For most USDA employees, the salary

increase became effective as of July 13, the first full pay period after July 1.

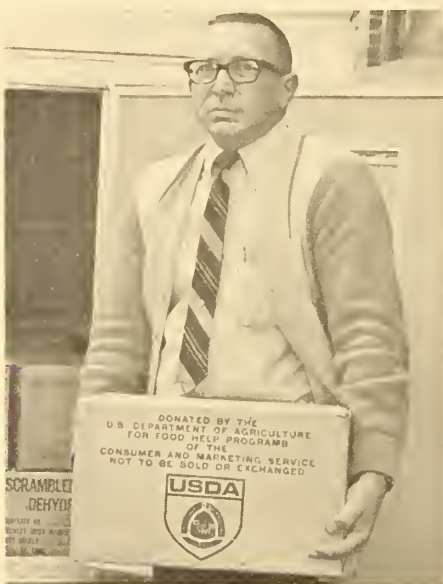
The program revisions affect the Merit Promotion Policy, the Federal Incentive Awards Program and discrimination complaints procedures.

Emphasis of the new Merit Promotion Policy is placed on giving all employees the chance to receive full consideration for promotion; using the most effective rating methods to identify highly qualified candidates for promotion; selecting from among the best qualified; and keeping employees well informed about the program and their own promotional opportunities.

Significant revision of the Governmentwide Incentive Awards Program streamlines and clarifies the program; establishes higher minimums for cash awards; and helps achieve consistency among agencies in its administration.

New procedures for processing complaints of discrimination on grounds of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin have as basic objectives: To provide maximum opportunity for informal resolution of problems-which might result in complaints; to guarantee a fair and impartial hearing by a trained appeals examiner when a hearing is required; and to speed up the entire complaint process.

Farmers borrowed less mortgage money from major lending groups in 1968 than in 1967; and unless current high interest and competition from urban borrowers relax, the downturn will continue this year. Volume of new farm mortgage money loaned by 19 life insurance firms, Federal land banks, and the Farmers Home Administration dipped to \$1.58 billion in 1968 and was 21 percent under the high mark of 1965, the ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE reports.



ED JONES directs USDA's consumer food programs in the Sioux City, Iowa, area. When last April's floods displaced persons there, relief agencies called for USDA commodities to feed them. Using his own truck, Jones helped distribute approximately 6,000 pounds of this food throughout the disaster period.

Vegetable Co-ops Work For Arkansas Farmers

In the Mississippi River country of eastern Arkansas where cotton was king and the soybean was its queen, more than 700 Negro farmers are on the road to economic independence.

In an effort to become active participants in the affluent society, farmers in St. Francis and Lee counties are turning to the vegetable co-op. In many cases, they are using one of the South's oldest crops, okra, as a wedge to raise their annual income above the \$3,000 level. Okra is a green, pod-shaped vegetable best known for the flavor it brings to gumbo soup.

Most co-op members are owner-operators of small farm tracts. Some are workers on large farms and are allowed to produce vegetables to increase the family's income.

The progress achieved is seen in the operation of the St. Francis County Vegetable Growers Cooperative Association, a 200-member organization that received a \$12,000 economic opportunity cooperative loan from the Farmers Home Administration in 1965. Before then, most farmers in St. Francis County had used their land to grow cotton, rice, soybeans, corn, and subsistence livestock. Ninety percent were in the low-income bracket.

In 1961, a few farmers signed contracts to produce okra, cucumbers, and peas for supplementary income. However, the local market for these crops remained small.

In 1965, several farmers discussed with a Technical Action Panel (TAP) representative the idea of organizing and purchasing a marketing facility. Following a favorable recommendation from the County Technical Action Committee, the St. Francis County Vegetable Growers Cooperative Association became a reality.

TAP's are composed of representatives of the USDA and other Federal and State agencies whose programs benefit rural people.

In its first year, the co-op increased production of vegetables by 300,000 pounds, upped its gross income by about \$13,000, and processed over 1,000,000 pounds of okra in a new market shed at Forrest City, Ark. Records for January 1968 show that the Association paid out more than \$123,000 to okra growers alone the year before.

County FHA supervisor *John F. Knox* says, "The co-op has affected children in this area to the point where they no longer have to stay out of school to pick cotton. They can stay in school 9 months out of the year now."



A SNOW SURVEY CREW travels by "snowcat" to measure the depth and moisture content of a new snowfall at an SCS snow course in the Sierras.

SCS Cooperates in "Project Sky Water"

"Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it." The Soil Conservation Service is cooperating in a project which someday may change this old complaint.

SCS recently installed 15 new snow courses in the Jemez and San Pedro Mountains in northern New Mexico, one of several locations in the West where weather modification experiments are being conducted by the Bureau of Rec-

lamation. Site of the new snow courses and similar SCS facilities near Steamboat Springs, Colo., and Mount Hood, Oreg., are in target areas of "Project Sky Water." The primary concern of this project is the study of man's endeavors to increase precipitation artificially.

SCS cooperates in the project by gathering snow and rain data for use by the Bureau of Reclamation in assessing the productivity of cloud-seeding.

The snow courses are permanently established areas located in high mountain meadows not subject to freak drifts. After each snowfall in "Sky Water" areas, SCS snow surveyors go into the high mountains to measure the depth and water content of the snow. These men will take hundreds of snow readings from early December until the spring thaw, as well as readings from rain gauges at the sites during the summer.

The teams keeping watch on the "Sky Water" snow courses are part of a corps of several hundred SCS employees and cooperators who measure and report on more than 1,500 snow courses in the Western States and Alaska.

The resulting information, released to storage regulation agencies, irrigators, and other water users weeks to months in advance of actual runoff from the melting snow, permits advance planning for use of available supplies and forewarns of impending floods.

The Progressive Farmer magazine recently gave its annual "Woman of the Year" award to MRS. GILBERT ENGLISH, a member of the State advisory committee of the Farmers Home Administration in North Carolina. Mrs. English received the award for her long and dedicated service to rural people.

The Lee County Vegetable Growers Cooperative Association, an interracial organization with a \$40,000 FHA loan, has brought a strange sight to merchants around Marlinna, Ark. People who had traditionally asked for summer credit are now paying cash for the necessities of life.

The people of Lee County, where more than half the families had incomes below \$2,000 in 1964, also called on the Extension Service, TAP, and the Soil Conservation Service for assistance in solving a multitude of problems. One of the greatest was inadequate marketing facilities. In operation since February 1967, the co-op is now grading and shipping okra, peas, and cucumbers to market and has a contract with a national food concern. In 1968 receipts for the Association from okra came to more than \$110,000. The cucumbers and peas added another \$56,000.

In addition to having learned organization techniques, the co-ops are paying off their loans and covering routine costs through fees paid by each farmer out of money he earns growing vegetables. Twenty-five receiving stations now dot the landscape in an area where former have-nots are building bridges to a better tomorrow in Arkansas.

Indiana Student Wins Top Science Fair Prize

Jack Farr II, Mooresville, Ind., recently won the USDA-OPEDA first prize at the 20th International Science Fair in Fort Worth, Tex. His high school project was entitled, "Chemotype Analysis of *Drosophila Melanogaster*."

Farr was presented with a certificate of merit signed by Secretary Hardin, a \$75 savings bond, and a summer job offer with the Agricultural Research Service. *Dr. Lewis P. McCann*, immediate past president of the Organization of Professional Employees of USDA, made the presentation.

Arthur L. Haas III, Shaw, Miss., won the USDA second prize of a certificate, a \$50 bond, and a summer job offer.

Cheryl M. Engleman, Hazleton, N. Dak., won the third prize of a certificate, a \$25 bond, and a job offer.

Judges for the special awards by USDA-OPEDA were *Dr. Stanley P. Rowland*, ARS, New Orleans, La.; *Dr. Richard L. Ridgeway*, ARS, College Station, Tex.; *Dr. McCann*, ARS, Washington, D.C.; *Dr. John C. Moser*, Forest Service, Alexandria, La.; and *Jasper Franklin*, FS, New Orleans, La.

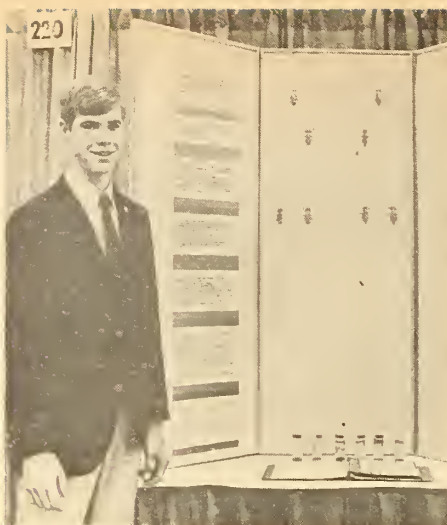
About 400 finalists from high schools throughout the United States and seven foreign countries exhibited science project at the fair, which is the "World Series" of science fairs.

Ten other finalists received certificates and summer job offers with ARS or the Forest Service: *June Elizabeth Bliss*, Mobile, Ala.; *William M. Brooks*, Sunnyvale, Calif.; *La Velton Jaylord Daniel*, Avera, Ga.; *Glenn W. Hanes*, Lanham, Md.; *Larry L. Lockrem*, Circle, Mont.; *William Thomas Mason III*, Jacksonville, Fla.; *Sherry Lynn Oliver*, Bedford, Va.; *Marshall Scott Poole*, Amarillo, Tex.; *Thomas Raymon Popplewell*, Mission, Tex.; and *Ron Sanches*, Newman, Calif.

Hardin Dedicates Research Labs

Secretary Hardin recently dedicated the South Plains Cotton Ginning Research Laboratory at Lubbock, Tex., and a new wing of the Southwestern Great Plains Research Center at Bushland. Both facilities are operated by the Agricultural Research Service.

Research at the Bushland facility is primarily concerned with soil and water conservation. At Lubbock research will be aimed at increasing efficiency and reducing gin operating costs in the handling of High Plains cotton.



JACK FARR II, Mooresville, Ind., stands before his exhibit which took the top USDA prize at the 20th International Science Fair, held recently in Fort Worth, Tex.

"After-Hours" Courses Available

More than 30 college level courses will be offered to employees in Washington, D.C., this summer through the Federal After-Hours Education Program. The courses, available to civilian and military personnel and other interested individuals, will be held in eight downtown Federal buildings.

The "After-Hours" program, coordinated by the Civil Service Commission's Bureau of Training in cooperation with George Washington University, offers opportunity to enroll in undergraduate and graduate courses leading to a Bachelor of Science or Master of Science Degree. Individuals may also enroll as non-degree students.

Registration for the 7½ week session will be conducted in Conference Room D, Department of Commerce lobby, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW. from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on July 22. Classes will begin the week of July 28. Tuition rates are \$47 per semester hour.

Your training officer or employee development officer has a listing of the various courses offered. Under the Government Employees Training Act of 1958, agencies are authorized to pay the major cost of tuition if the course is designed to help an employee improve in his job.

For further information contact *Robert W. Stewart, Jr.*, field representative for George Washington University (phone 676-7018 or 676-7028) or *Ed Pinney*, CSC coordinator for the "After-Hours" program (phone 632-5647 or Government Code 101-25647).

More Areas Designated For Food Stamp Program

Forty-two areas in 17 States were recently added to USDA's Food Stamp Program. These areas, 38 counties and 4 independent cities, will make food stamps available to their low-income families as soon as possible.

Of the 42 areas, 30 do not have any USDA family food-aid program for needy families, and 8 make USDA family food donations available on a partial or limited basis. In the remaining 4, USDA is presently operating a family food donations program.

When the 42 areas are operating—along with other areas in the process of starting programs—well over 3 million people in 43 States and the District of Columbia will be benefiting from food stamps. Added to those receiving USDA family food donations, this means that considerably more than 7 million needy persons will soon be benefiting from USDA's family food-help programs.

Presently, 2,717 of the Nation's 3,129 counties and independent cities are or soon will be offering USDA food stamps or donated foods to their needy families.

The Food Stamp Program enables eligible low-income families to increase their food-purchasing power by investing their own food money in Federal food coupons ("food stamps") worth more than they paid. The coupons are spent like cash at retail food outlets authorized under the program.

AWARDS

ALFRED L. EVERETT, a USDA microscopist, was recently named winner of a \$1,000 prize from the American Leather Chemists Association. The prize is for a paper he submitted early this year establishing the cause of cackle, a sheepskin defect that costs the leather and allied industries millions of dollars a year.

Everett works at USDA's Eastern utilization research laboratory, Wyndmoor, Pa. With the cooperation of *Dr. Irwin H. Roberts*, a veterinarian of the Agricultural Research Service in Albuquerque, N. Mex., Everett discovered that wingless parasitic flies known as keds, or sheep ticks, were responsible for the skin defect.

G. EARLE HAMERSTRAND, a chemist at the Agricultural Research Service Northern utilization research laboratory, Peoria, Ill., has been named School of Applied Arts Scholar for 1969 by the Graduate Studies Council at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo.

Hamerstrand is on a year's leave of absence from his ARS position. He received straight A's in 41 hours of graduate study in pulp and paper engineering.

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

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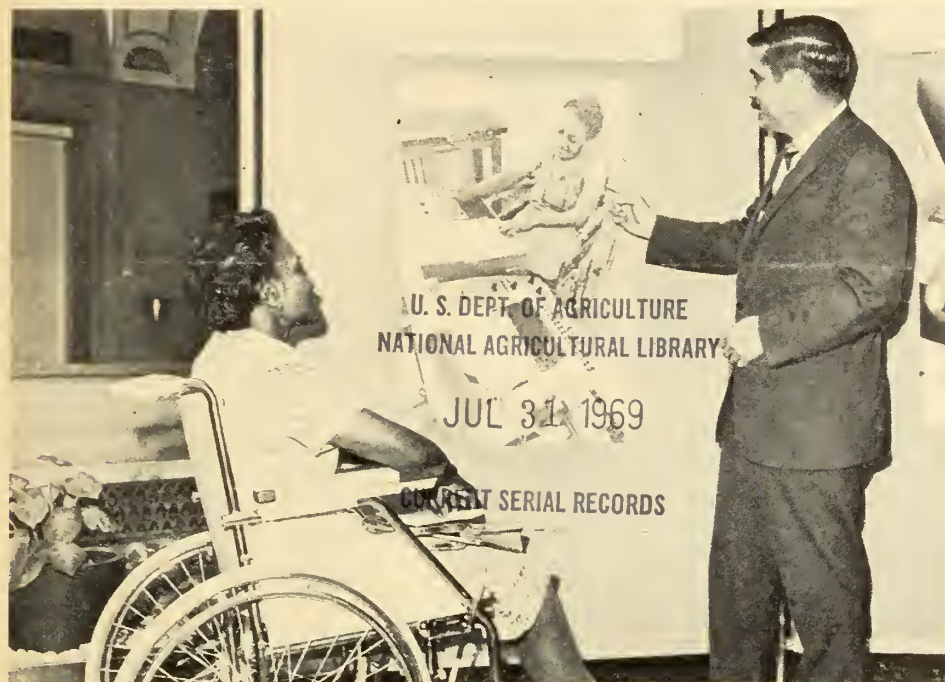
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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVIII NO. 16
JULY 31, 1969



MRS. GENEVIEVE THOMAS and Congressman Lawrence Hogan inspect one of the panels of the MUST exhibit depicting her at work. A MUST participant, Mrs. Thomas has full use of all fingers on one hand and one finger on the other. She is also confined to a wheelchair. Since ARS redesigned a job for her under MUST, she "now has a reason for living."

Project MUST Highlights Maximum Use of Skills

An exhibit promoting better use of USDA employees was opened the beginning of this month in the Administration Building Patio in Washington, D.C., by Representative *Lawrence Hogan* of Maryland's 5th District.

The exhibit's theme, MUST—Maximum Utilization of Skills and Training—highlights MUST's use in the Agricultural Research Service.

At the exhibit's opening, *Francis R. Mangham*, ARS Deputy Administrator for Administrative Management, introduced 32 High Ability students. Under the High Ability Program, sponsored by the National Science Foundation through a grant to American University, students with high potential in science or engineering are provided work experience in agricultural research laboratories.

Each High Ability student was also greeted personally by Congressman Hogan.

Under Secretary *J. Phil Campbell* told an audience attending opening day ceremonies that the MUST and High Ability Programs were combined for the exhibit because they share similar goals.

"MUST," he said, "asks that we make conscious efforts to use all the skills of all our employees; that we build and sharpen these skills through planned training and development." He termed the MUST exhibit "evidence of what can be done."

A side benefit of project MUST is meaningful use of handicapped persons. A case in point is *Mrs. Genevieve R. Thomas*.

Mrs. Thomas holds a B.S. degree in mathematics and for 8 years worked as a scientific aide. Then she developed multiple sclerosis. After 17 years of unemployment, she found work with ARS, under project MUST, as a mathematics aide. The position with the Human Nutrition Research Division in Beltsville,

Attachés Confer on Latin American Trade

The Department recently called a conference in Washington, D.C., of USDA agricultural attachés stationed in Latin America. According to Secretary Hardin, the purpose of the conference was to support the Administration's review of inter-American economic relations.

During the official 4-day conference, June 24-27, the attachés joined USDA and other Government officials, including Members of Congress, in making a commodity-by-commodity review of the present and future of U.S. agricultural trade with Latin America.

The attachés remained in Washington for 3 additional days for consultation with U.S. businessmen and organizations interested in doing business with Latin America.

Secretary Hardin said, in his address at the opening session of the conference, "This will be the most comprehensive look the Department has taken in several years at our agricultural relations with Latin America. We believe it will make a major contribution to the study the Administration is currently making of our economic and trade relationships within the Americas."

Trade between the United States and Latin America amounted to nearly \$10 billion in fiscal year 1968.

JOHN P. ORCUTT was recently named Assistant to the Secretary for Federal-State Relations.

Since 1965, Orcutt has been Commissioner of Agriculture for Colorado, headquartered in Denver. In his new capacity he will serve as Secretary Hardin's major liaison with the State Departments of Agriculture and as consultant on other matters involving Federal-State cooperation.

Orcutt is a former Colorado State Senator and State Representative.

Md., was redesigned to fit Mrs. Thomas' qualifications because ARS needed her talents.

Mrs. Thomas' outlook on life has improved 100 percent since her reemployment and, as she says, she "now has a reason for living."

The exhibit was displayed in the Patio until July 11.

PLANS ANNOUNCED FOR CO-OP MONTH 1969

"Cooperatives: Progress Through People" will be the theme of the 1969 Co-op Month across the Nation this October, according to the Washington, D.C., steering committee for this year's activities.

The committee is made up of representatives of participating cooperative organizations and government agencies. Under Secretary *J. Phil Campbell* is chairman.

This year there will be an opening day event, a 2-day conference for rural cooperative leaders, and a crafts exhibition, all in Washington, D.C.

In addition, six national events throughout the country will feature cooperatives that provide housing, consumer goods, health services, and special services for low-income people, credit unions, and cooperatives overseas.

State and local observances also will be held.

This is the sixth year the Federal Government, national cooperative organizations, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations have sponsored a Co-op Month. State and local observances have been held in a number of areas for the past two decades—expanding each year until 47 States had official observances last year.

Executive director for the Washington, D.C., event is *David W. Angevine*, Administrator of the Farmer Cooperative Service.

Soil Erosion Remains A Problem

Remarkable progress has been made in soil and water conservation in the United States in the last 25 years. But the country continues to suffer heavy soil erosion losses. About 120 million acres of land are in danger of being washed away, with only about one-third of our land adequately safeguarded.

And sediment causes costly damage to our major water storage reservoirs. The amount of erosion-produced sediment dredged annually from our rivers and harbors exceeds the volume of earth dug for the Panama Canal.

Increased farm production resulting from tremendous advances in science and technology tends to obscure the fact that, to meet food and fiber needs of a few years hence, this country will need the production equivalents of about 200 million acres, based on current yields. Since we do not have the additional acres of cropland, this production must come largely from increased yields on existing land.



TWO 4-H'ERS ADVISE a bicycle owner on bicycle safety and courtesy. Such activities are important to leadership development, the long range goal of the new nationwide 4-H bicycle program.

4-H BIKE PROGRAM "PEDALS" SAFETY AND FUN

Safety and fun are primary goals of a new nationwide bicycle program recently initiated for 4-H youth. It is designed for boys and girls 9 to 19, with emphasis on elementary school age.

The program is one of the many 4-H activities ideally suited for youngsters in both urban and rural areas. Already an estimated 125,000 4-H'ers have bicycle projects, and the number is rapidly increasing. From coast to coast, "biking" is one of the fastest growing fun and leisure time activities in the entire 4-H program. For many, the project will become advance preparation for operating and caring for small engines or for safe-driving of a car or other motor vehicle.

The program is sponsored by a tire and rubber company of Akron, Ohio, through the Cooperative Extension Service. Support for it was arranged by the

National 4-H Service Committee, Chicago. 4-H officials worked with the sponsor for more than a year to set up the educational pattern. Guidebooks and other instructional materials are being written especially for it.

Through the program, the 4-H'ers learn safety and traffic rules, bicycle courtesy, and proper bicycle maintenance and mechanical checks. A lot of fun is built into the program, too, with exhibitions or riding skill, games, and contests planned. Leadership development is the long-range goal.

A series of annual incentive awards will be provided by the sponsor. These include: Individual certificates for all participants; a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond for each top State winner; an expense-paid trip to the National 4-H Congress for each of six sectional winners; and four national \$600 scholarships.



FOR THE SECOND year, the citizens of rural St. Marys County, Md., have been given the opportunity for a free eye examination. Organizations that have cooperated in bringing about this service are the Lions International Clubs of St. Marys County, George Washington University Hospital, Red Cross Volunteers, The Society for the Prevention of Blindness, St. Marys County Public Health Service, the St. Marys Medical Association, and the Federated Women's Clubs of Maryland. The Department's RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICE was interested in the success of the project both years because big hospital eye clinic services are unique to this area. During the 2-day clinic 920 people were examined for a variety of eye difficulties and 46 were referred for some form of treatment. The number of people examined increased over last year's 691 even though the clinic this year was a half-day shorter. Thirty-eight were referred last year.

Lassie Helps Blind "See" the Forest

Blind visitors at the San Bernardino National Forest in southern California can thank Lassie, the television canine star, for being able to "see" the great out-of-doors.

Producers of the Lassie television show recently presented a Braille trail to the Forest Service, the second such trail on a National Forest.

The Whispering Pine Nature Trail west of Los Angeles is the result of a story plot about blind children scheduled for one of next fall's Lassie shows. A necessary element of the story was a Braille trail. At the invitation of the Forest Service, producers of the show agreed to help build the trail in the National Forest instead of constructing it on the studio lot in Los Angeles.

Construction work was done by Forest Service personnel, but all other expenses were paid by the producers and the Del Rosa Junior Women's Club.

The trail was tested when the television show was filmed since all the children in the show were blind.

The trail, which is above the 6,000-foot elevation in the Sierras, is about two-thirds of a mile long. A nylon hand cord along the length of the trail guides the blind to 23 interpretive stops designed to emphasize the smells, sounds, and feel of the forest. Each stop has two signs: One printed so sighted people can read it; the other in Braille so the blind visitors can read it.

The first such trail in the United



LASSIE AND JED ALLAN, "Ranger Scott Turner" on the Lassie TV show, join blind youngsters at one of the interpretive stops along the new Whispering Pine Nature Trail on the San Bernardino National Forest in California.

States for the blind was established by the Forest Service in October 1967 in the White River National Forest near Aspen, Colo. Another is being built by the New Mexico Federation of Women's Clubs in the Lincoln National Forest in New Mexico. Still another—a "touch and see trail"—was dedicated last year in Washington, D.C., at the National Arboretum operated by the Agricultural Research Service.

The Forest Service also has a nature trail for the physically handicapped visitors in the George Washington National Forest near Massanutten, Va.

Forest Service Employee Authors Book on Trees

Stanley Jepsen (below) of the Forest Service Information and Education Division in Washington, D.C., is author of a newly published book, "Trees and Forests" (A. S. Barnes & Co.).

All about the kingdom of trees, the new volume is the result of two of Jepsen's principal hobbies—botany and education.

The handsome hard-cover book includes a wide range of photographic illustrations among its 150 pages. It covers the full life-cycle of the forest tree, with chapters on the origin of trees; care of trees; tree planting, transplanting, and harvesting; and the production of lumber and forest products.

Jepsen's book could serve as a useful reference for forestry students, as well



as a guide for tree farmers or anyone interested in forest trees.

Before joining the Forest Service in 1964, Jepsen was education director for American Forest Products Industries. He taught high school in California and served for a number of years as associate editor of forest industry publications in the West. He attended the University of Idaho, where he earned B.S. and M.S. degrees in forestry.



A SPOT CHECK ON THE NEWS. Thanks to the Radio Service of the Office of Information, radio broadcasters now can get a run-down on USDA news items without coming to the Department. A new program service called the Radio Spot News Service enables broadcasters to select news items simply by picking up the telephone. The special phone hookup for use by radio stations across the Nation also permits broadcasters to record the news items which often feature voices of top Department officials. The news items on the line are changed every business day. (Above) USDA radio staffer Larry K. Collins, left, and chief Jack Towers, right, interview Secretary Hardin for the Radio Spot News Service.

Secretary Hardin recently called on the entire swine industry to unite in the "stamping out" efforts against hog cholera. The nationwide HOG CHOLERA ERADICATION CAMPAIGN being waged by the industry in cooperation with the States and the Animal Health Division of the Agricultural Research Service got underway in late 1962. Target date for completion of the program and a "hog cholera free" United States is 1972. The program is divided into four phases, with the first two devoted to control measures and the final two aimed at eradicating the disease. Only six States remain in the control phases: Hawaii, Maine, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New York, and Texas. Of the 44 States and Puerto Rico in the "stamping out" phases, 12 have already been declared "hog cholera free."

APPOINTMENTS

New members of State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committees for 11 States were recently appointed by Secretary Hardin. They are:

ALABAMA—Clyde P. Mahaffey of Melvin; A. G. Mitchell, Jr., of Fyffe; Jim T. Norman of Goshen; Travis H. Vickery of Hackleburg; and Laurence G. Davis of Decatur.

ARKANSAS—Aylmer L. Lower, Texarkana; Lattie J. Churchill, Dover; Harlan H. Holleman, Wynne; Chauncey L. Denton, Jr., Tyrone; John Cannon, Jr., Marion; Frederick L. Daum, Pleasant Grove; and Claude C. Kennedy, Jr., Marianna.

CONNECTICUT—Warren E. Thrall, Windsor; and Thomas J. Lachance, Somers.

KENTUCKY—Jack Welch, Owenton; Douglas C. Evans, Tompkinsville; and Paul L. Fuqua, Hardinsburg.

LOUISIANA—Bruce N. Lynn, Gilliam; Erle M. Barham, Oak Ridge; J. Malcolm Duhe, New Iberia; William N. Prather, Branch; and Earl A. Roque, Natchez.

MAINE—Basil S. Fox, Washburn; Rex L. Varnue, Dover Foxcroft; and William H. Allen, Hebron.

MARYLAND—Raymond F. Jaeger, Randallstown; John K. Meyers, Sharpsburg; and Homer O. Schmidt, Federalsburg.

MISSISSIPPI—Waldemar L. Prichard, Inverness; Isaac D. Franklin, Artesia; John C. Sides, Jr., Coffeeville; and Richard T. Watson, Woodville.

NEW YORK—John A. McTarnaghan, Dansville; Harvey H. Smith, Auburn; and H. Foster Shimel, LaFargeville.

PENNSYLVANIA—John M. Phillips, North East; Willard H. Kimmel, Shelocta; and Richard L. Smith, Springville.

RHODE ISLAND—George I. Kenyon, Jr., Exeter; Charles M. Borders, Foster; and William M. Silva, Middletown.

Secretary Hardin recently appointed nine new State directors of the Farmers Home Administration. They are:

ARKANSAS—Robert L. Hankins, with headquarters in Little Rock

GEORGIA—Robert B. Lee, at Atlanta
KANSAS—E. Morgan Williams, Topeka

KENTUCKY—John H. Burris, Lexington

MICHIGAN—Alfred O. LaPorte, East Lansing

MISSOURI—Mendel R. Cline, Columbia

MONTANA—Norman C. Wheeler, Bozeman

NEW ENGLAND—James H. Christie, Orono, Maine

OHIO—Lester M. Stone, Columbus

PLENTIFUL FOODS

USDA's August list. Featured are *onions* and *wheat products*. Other plentiful include: *Peanuts and peanut products, cabbage, carrots, celery, cucumbers, lettuce and tomatoes, fresh pears, nectarines, limes, and watermelons.*



PERSONNEL AND EMPLOYMENT OFFICERS of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service met recently in Washington, D.C., with Carl Barnes, Director of Personnel, for a session of "tell and hear it like it is." One of the main topics of discussion was the new Merit Promotion Policy revisions, which went into effect July 1. Seated, left to right, are Pedro A. Claverol, ASCS Caribbean Area Office; John W. Bolish, Washington, D.C.; Dan Deets and Bob Travis, Kansas City Management Field Office; Bob Johnson, Washington, D.C.; Carl Strauss and James Leachman, New Orleans Commodity Office; Don Egr, Kansas City Management Field Office; Doris Nicklasson, Minneapolis Commodity Office; Carl Barnes; Arlene Lee, Minneapolis Commodity Office; and Frank Abbott, Washington, D.C.

Agri Briefs

Small farmers and farmers in weak financial positions are the usual borrowers under the Farmers Home Administration's **FARM OPERATING LOAN PROGRAM**; similar loans from commercial banks and production credit associations go to larger farmers and those in stronger financial positions, according to a recent report by the Economic Research Service.

The FHA limits loans to farmers who are unable to obtain suitable credit elsewhere. Factors restricting credit are small farm size, inadequate capital base, and limited farm experience. Almost three-fourths of the farmers with outstanding operating loans from FHA in 1966 had net worths of less than \$10,000. Often such farmers can get enough commercial credit to cover annual operating expenses, but not enough to cover the improvements and adjustments needed to remain competitive.

A 2-year research contract to find means of imparting magnetic properties to cotton was recently awarded to the Gulf South Research Institute, New Orleans, La., by the **AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE**.

The contract was awarded in an effort to develop new and improved methods of turning cotton fibers into yarns and fabrics. Cotton will be chemically and physically treated with metal compounds that will cause the fibers to be attracted by magnetic forces.

The research is sponsored by the ARS Southern utilization research laboratory in New Orleans, with Albert Baril, Jr., as ARS technical representative.

Georgia's Coastal Plain Experiment Station at Tifton recently observed its 50th anniversary. As if that was not reason enough for celebration, animal



RICHARD D. LANE (left), director of the Forest Service's Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, Upper Darby, Pa., accepts the National Safety Council's Annual Safety Contest Third Place Award in behalf of his safety-conscious personnel. The Northeastern station was rated in Group A, Forestry Division, Wood Products Section for organizations with more than 633,112 man-hours per year. Gerald LaVoy, Northeastern station personnel officer, made the presentation.

scientists and agronomists at the station this year won the **SEARS-ROEBUCK FOUNDATION RESEARCH AWARD** for developing a new hybrid of Coastal Bernudagrass. The station is under the direction of Dr. Frank P. King, and the staff includes 40 university scientists and 49 USDA people.

AN **INGREDIENT** HAVING anticancer properties has been isolated from a plant extract in laboratory studies by chemists J. David Warthen, Jr., Martin Jacobson, and physicist Ernest L. Gooden of the Agricultural Research Service. Test-tube experiments with the extract showed significant inhibition of human cancer cells in cell culture.

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

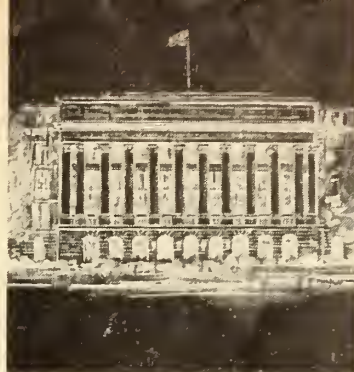
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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVIII NO. 17
AUGUST 14, 1969

USDA SCIENTISTS TEST MOON ROCK

What will a little moon dust do to your tomato plants? Probably nothing. But to find out, Forest Service plant pathologists, *Dr. Charles Walkinshaw, Jr.*, and *Dr. John A. Vozzo*, are performing tests to determine any effects lunar materials might have on earth's plant life.

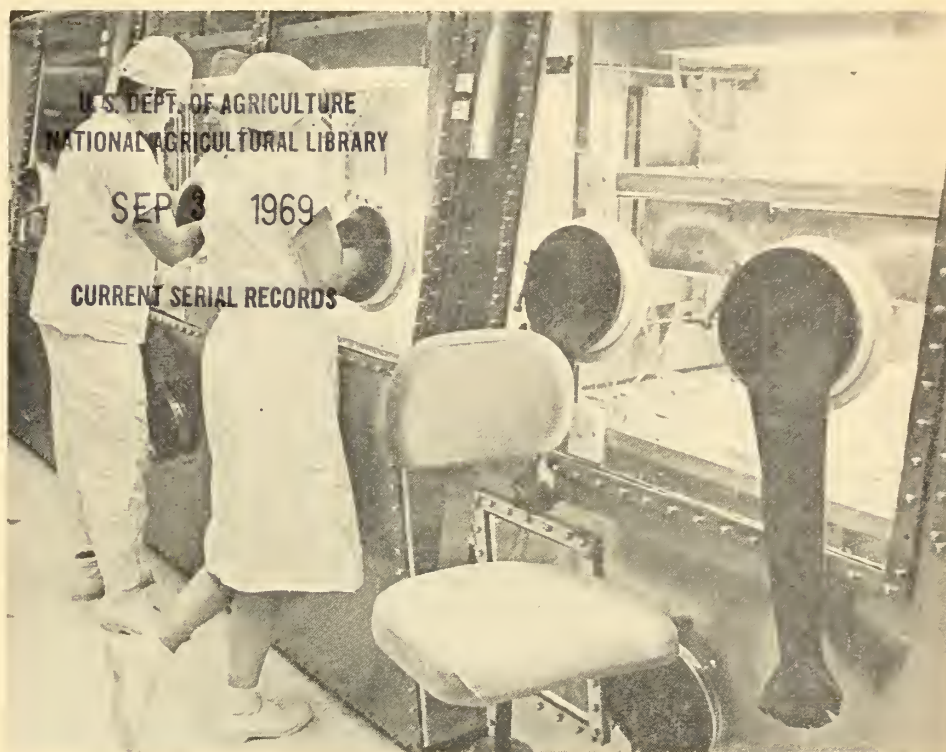
In similar tests, *Clarence A. Benschooter*, an entomologist with the Agricultural Research Service, is screening the effects of lunar materials on insects.

The three USDA scientists are working at the Lunar Receiving Laboratory (LRL), a part of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Manned Spacecraft Center near Houston, Tex. They are among the more than 100 scientists who are investigating the rock and dust samples brought back by the moon-visiting astronauts.

The botanical tests being conducted by the Forest Service scientists involve four types of investigations. The first is the exposure of algae to powdered moon rock. In the second, seeds are directly exposed during germination to the lunar material, and a third test will analyze any microbes that may attack growing plants. The fourth test exposes masses of growing plant cells to the moon materials for detection of any toxins or pathogens that might invade cells.

A variety of plants are used in the tests including tomato, potato, tobacco, cabbage, onion, bean, slash pine and fern.

Three common insects—the housefly, cockroach, and wax moth—were chosen for the experiments being made by Benschooter. In a variety of tests, the ARS scientist will check for any toxic effects that the moon soil might have on insects as well as for any pathogens or other substance that might upset their normal physiology. Insect specimens exposed to the lunar materials for a few days were sent to ARS laboratories at Beltsville, Md., where *Dr. A. M. Heimpel* made preliminary histological examinations. These examinations will be followed by more intensive studies by Heimpel of insects exposed to lunar materials over a 30-day period.



BEHIND THE "BIOLOGICAL BARRIER" at the Lunar Receiving Laboratory at NASA's Manned Spacecraft Center, Houston, Tex., Forest Service scientist, *Dr. Charles H. Walkinshaw, Jr.*, (left) and a technician prepare tests to find effects of lunar materials on earth's plant life. Scientists from the Agricultural Research Service are testing the effects of moon rock on insects.

The possibility that any kind of life exists on the moon is extremely remote. But there is the slim chance that some form of life there—if only rudimentary bacterium or virus—could be hostile to earth life or so different to anything on earth that neither plants, animals, nor humans would have resistance to its attack.

Because of this risk, elaborate precautions were taken to prevent lunar materials from being released into the earth's atmosphere before vital tests could be made. Astronauts Armstrong and Aldrin left their boots and gloves on the moon's surface; from their recovery in the Pacific Ocean until their arrival at the LRL for a 16-day quarantine period, the astronauts were isolated in specially-equipped trailers.

The quarters for the Apollo crew and the complex of laboratories at the LRL are separated from the rest of the world

by what is known as a "biological barrier." Nothing—not even the air the astronauts breathe—is allowed to escape into the atmosphere without being purified.

Tests of the lunar samples began at the Lunar Receiving Laboratory even before the astronauts' arrival at Houston. The two sealed containers carrying the samples were retrieved from the space capsule and immediately flown to the moon lab. At the LRL, the outsides of the suitcase-sized containers were sterilized by ultra-violet light and an acid bath and placed into a vacuum chamber. Scientists, with arms and hands encased in gloves of a modified space suit, opened the containers and removed the samples.

Some of the samples were then distributed to the USDA scientists and their colleagues to find out what in the world the moon is made of.



MORE THAN 4,000 IDEAS poured into the office of James V. Smith, Administrator of the Farmers Home Administration, when he recently asked employees to submit suggestions for improving operations of the agency. Aided by Jeanie Miles, Miss Farmers Home Administration of 1969, Smith reviews some of the ideas as well as some suggestions of slogans and symbols to characterize the work of FHA. Smith expressed delight that the "direct line" to the 41 State and 1,700 county FHA offices produced such thoughtful and imaginative results.

Functions of ASCS Are Realigned

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service recently announced a realignment of functions within the agency, returning it to a modified commodity division type of operation in the Washington offices.

In announcing the change, ASCS Administrator *Kenneth E. Frick* said, "The organizational change is a redistribution and redirection of resources to make our operation as effective as possible."

The shift involves the formation of new divisions in Washington. In broad terms, these new divisions assume or regroup the duties of several ASCS divisions, branches, and groups which have been phased out.

The new divisions are: Cotton, Grain, Livestock and Dairy, Oilseeds and Special Crops, Sugar, Tobacco, Transportation and Warehousing, Commodity Programs, Compliance and Appeals, Conservation and Land Use, Defense and Disaster Programs, and Direct Payments Programs.

Divisions phased out by the realignment include: Commodity Operations, Farmers Programs, Producer Associations, Bin Storage, Program and Policy Appraisal, and Aerial Photography.

In addition the new divisions incorporate the functions of the following: Policy Staffs, Automatic Data Processing Staffs, Disaster and Defense Services Staff, and ASCS activities in Rural Areas Development and Technical Action Panels.

State and county ASCS offices are not affected by the realignment. Administrator Frick, in announcing the changes, affirmed strong support of the farmer-elected ASC county committee system.

Staff Changes Made in Consumer Protection

Two top personnel changes in USDA consumer protection services were announced recently by *Richard E. Lyng*, assistant secretary in charge of marketing and consumer services.

Dr. Gilbert H. Wise of the Agricultural Research Service was named deputy administrator of the Consumer and Marketing Service in charge of consumer protection. He has served as associate director of the Animal Health Division, ARS, since 1967.

Dr. Robert K. Somers was named special assistant to the administrator of the Consumer and Marketing Service. He is currently deputy administrator for consumer protection.

A native of Grand Rapids, Mich., Dr. Wise joined USDA in 1949 as a field veterinarian in Michigan. He served in New Jersey, Ohio, and California before becoming senior veterinarian on the swine diseases staff of the Animal Health Division in Washington, D.C., in 1961.

Dr. Somers, a native of Saginaw, Mich., began his USDA career with the Bureau of Animal Industry in Animal Disease Control and Meat Inspection in Michigan, Minnesota, and Iowa. He was transferred to Washington, D.C., as assistant chief of the inspection procedures section of the Meat Inspection Division.

ANNUITANTS INCLUDED IN "OPEN SEASON"

The Civil Service Commission recently announced that annuitants enrolled in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program can participate in the November 10-28, 1969, open season scheduled for active employees.

During open season, eligible employees who are not enrolled in a health benefits plan under the program are permitted to enroll. Employees and annuitants who are already enrolled in a plan are able to change to another plan or to another option of the plan they are in. In addition, those enrolled for self-only may change to a family-type enrollment in the same or a different plan or option. Changes made during the open season become effective at the beginning of the first pay period in 1970.

Open seasons are required to be held

at least once every 3 years for employees but not for annuitants. An earlier decision by the Commission excluded annuitants from the November 1969 open season.

All annuitants will be notified by mail of the changes in the program.

Conservation Is Topic of Youth Conference

Montana young people recently learned how to become involved in the world around them—literally. Vehicle for this was the second annual Montana Youth Conference on Conservation held in Helena, Mont.

More than 150 Montana high school and college students attended the conference which was sponsored by the Montana Conservation Council in cooperation with the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs and the Montana Federation of Women's Clubs.

Forest Service and Soil Conservation Service personnel took part in the conference program and furnished exhibits. *Lillian Hornick*, who is in charge of education and women's activities for the

Forest Service's Northern Region at Missoula, was conference coordinator. Speakers included *Robert S. Morgan*, Helena National Forest supervisor; *Gerald J. Coutant*, FS landscape architect; and *H. F. Uhrlich*, SCS.

Participants also included representatives from the Department of the Interior; State agencies; private organizations; and conservation educators from Montana colleges and high schools.

An impressive list of topics was on the agenda, including: Quality environment with emphasis on air and water; conservation education; soil, water, and range conservation; forests and wildlife; recreation; beautification; ecological responsibility; public lands; careers in conservation; and community action.

OIL'S WELL—The crew drilling a waste disposal well for a new nitrogen plant owned by a farmer cooperative in Dodge City, Kans., had unexpected results. They struck oil.

A Land of New Lakes

Swimming rates as the number two outdoor sport of Americans, according to the Soil Conservation Service. And a lot of it goes on in the more than 5,000 man-made lakes built in the last 15 years by local communities with the help of SCS.

The 5,000-mark was passed during the fiscal year ended June 30 as several hundred new lakes were added to the total of some 4,900 watershed lakes and reservoirs already on the land.

Although only 1 percent of the lakes was originally designed with recreation in mind, almost 99 percent of them are now used to some degree for outdoor fun. Some of the lakes—which vary in size from less than 10 acres to 1,800 acres—have become the nucleus for new or enlarged public parks. Many have provided communities with their first and only chance for water sports.

The basic purpose of almost all the lakes is flood prevention, but recreation is an official second purpose at 50 lakes where local watershed project sponsors are paying at least half of the added costs. These 50 lakes provide an estimated 4 million user days of water-based fun annually.

At recreation lakes where SCS does not help pay recreation costs, facilities range from jump-in swimming to elaborate diving, boating, fishing, camping, hunting, or water-skiing installations. These facilities are built by State and local governments or by private organizations or individuals.

The 5,000 new lakes help both rural and city dwellers keep their cool. A reservoir near Cavalier, N. Dak., provides the only swimming water within 65 miles and has sparkplugged the building of a 370-acre State park. Lake Needwood, in Upper Rock Creek Park near Washington, D.C., opened last summer with facilities for fishing, boating, and camping.

But come fall, when the splashing dies down, the 5,000 lakes will quietly go back to their job of year-round flood protection.

The triumphs of home and community gardeners—and their contribution to a more livable America—will be recognized during NATIONAL LAWN AND GARDEN WEEK 1970. This second annual observance will be held in the Department March 20–26. The week will herald a series of “Growing With America” gardening events throughout the Nation in the following spring months.

The goal of the events will be to accent the benefits that people of all ages and economic levels can find in well-kept lawns, in flower, fruit, and vegetable gardens, and in city parks. The events will be supported by joint efforts of industry, government, garden clubs, and other civic groups.



BACK IN THE “Dust Bowl Days,” a common sight in the Great Plains States was a farm lot smothered under a blanket of dust. The above photograph, taken from USDA’s historical photo file, was made at a North Dakota farm in 1936, 2 years after the Soil Conservation Service and the Great Plains Agricultural Council began keeping records of wind erosion damage.

Wind Erosion Lowest Ever in the Plains

Wind erosion damage in the Great Plains this year is the lowest ever recorded in 35 years of annual reports, according to the Soil Conservation Service.

A total 995,150 damaged acres was listed in the final 1969 “blow season” report, a decrease of more than 15 percent from the previous season.

Texas and North Dakota reported the greatest amount of total acres damaged, while Kansas had the least. The estimates were from 204 counties in the 10 Great Plains States: Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, New Mexico, Wyoming, Oklahoma, and Texas.

SCS Administrator *Kenneth E. Grant* said major reasons for the reduced damage this year were better moisture conditions, fewer extremely high winds, and

greater use of soil and water conservation practices.

SCS administers a Great Plains conservation program which assists farmers and ranchers in applying large-scale conservation practices and converting unsuitable cropland to permanent grass cover. Ninety-five percent of wind erosion damage reported this year was on cropland.

FHA Helps Create New Texas Town

In a first-of-its-kind venture in the United States, the Farmers Home Administration and the U.S. Plywood-Champion Papers, Inc., have joined forces to create a whole new “town” for company employees.

When USP-CP bought a 200,000-acre timber holding of a Texas lumber firm in 1968, it immediately started to find new housing for employees who were residing in company-owned houses in Camden, Tex.

In coordination with FHA, the company developed home sites on a 117-acre tract of timberland adjoining the small rural town of Corrigan, a few miles from Camden.

The USP-CP furnished \$400,000 to pay for laying out the one-half-acre home sites, surfacing streets, installing water and sewer systems, and other community facilities. The company also negotiated with telephone, electric, and gas companies for installing utility and phone service to the new “town.”

FHA participation included assistance in developing plans for the 10 different home models that were approved for financing and providing loans averaging about \$8,000 to \$10,000 each to the families.

EMPEROR VISITS USDA

His Imperial Majesty *Haile Selassie I*, Emperor of Ethiopia, was briefed on recent developments in animal husbandry research conducted by USDA during his visit to the Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md., July 10.

J. Phil Campbell, Under Secretary of Agriculture, and *Dr. Ned D. Bayley*, Director of Science and Education, accompanied the Emperor.

Upon arrival at the Center, the Emperor was greeted by *Dr. George W. Irving, Jr.*, Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service.

Dr. Robert R. Oltjen, *Dr. Frank N. Dickinson*, *Dr. Clair E. Terrill*, and *Dr. Carl W. Hess*, all of the ARS Animal Husbandry Research Division, explained research developments in breeding and management and showed the Emperor examples of outstanding livestock and poultry breeding lines.

ACHIEVEMENTS

WILLIAM C. CROW, director of the Transportation and Facilities Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, was recently awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree by Maryville College, Maryville, Tenn.

Crow was cited for his career-long contributions to improve the efficiency of getting food from the farm to the consumer nationally and internationally.

Crow received his bachelor's degree from Maryville College in 1924, and his master's from the University of Chicago in 1929.

His entire USDA career, starting in 1935, has been in marketing—marketing research, service, and regulatory work on all commodities at all levels from farm to consumer—coupled with extensive cooperation with State Departments of Agriculture, State Experiment Stations and Extension Services, farm, and industry groups.

He holds numerous honors and awards and has written more than 50 publications and directed the writing of more than 1,000 publications and journal articles issued by his division.

MRS. RITA K. STRAUSS, secretary to the director, Forest Service Division of Fire Control, recently was elected recording secretary of Federally Employed Women, Inc.

FEW is an organization established in 1968 to promote opportunity and equality for women in Government.

Mrs. Strauss has worked for the Government for 15 years, with the Internal Revenue Service, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and USDA.

DR. CHARLES R. RUSSELL, head of Nonstarch Products Investigations at ARS' Northern Utilization Laboratory, Peoria, Ill., recently received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Monmouth College, Monmouth, Ill.

The award recognizes Dr. Russell's achievements and contributions to society through leadership, interest in fellow man, and the assumption of personal responsibilities as an educated individual.

Dr. Russell received his B.S. degree from Monmouth College in 1940.

EMPLOY THE HANDICAPPED

Secretary Hardin has urged all USDA agencies to maintain, on a year-round basis, an active, positive Employ the Handicapped Program.

In making the request, he said that each agency can demonstrate its participation in this effort "by continually identifying positions in which handicapped persons can show their capability."

The Secretary noted that President Nixon, in his policy statement on Federal employment, asked agencies and departments to commit themselves "to



FOREST SERVICE CHIEF Edward P. Cliff (left), Sen. Clinton P. Anderson of New Mexico, and Southwestern Regional Forester William D. Hurst pause by the entrance of the new Gila Visitors Center on the Gila National Forest, New Mexico.

New Visitor Center is Joint Project

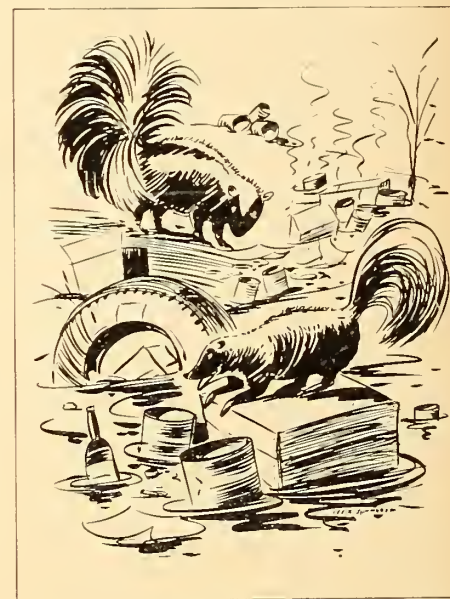
The ghosts of Pueblo Indians who lived in the prehistoric days of southwestern New Mexico recently had company in abundance. The occasion was the gathering of more than 300 persons for the dedication of the Gila Visitor Center.

The new facility, constructed by the Interior Department's National Park Service on Gila National Forest land, is operated by both the Forest Service and the Park Service. The center's interpretive exhibits were planned and financed jointly by the two agencies.

The center, located north of Silver City, N. Mex., is surrounded by the Gila Wilderness Area, established in 1924 as the Nation's first Wilderness. Nearby is

the Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument, administered by the Park Service.

Forest Service Chief *Edward P. Cliff* joined other officials of the Forest Service and the Park Service in dedicating the new center and in honoring *Sen. Clinton P. Anderson*, former Secretary of Agriculture, for his long-time support of the Wilderness concept.



"Litter-ally, man stinks!" KAB-2

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

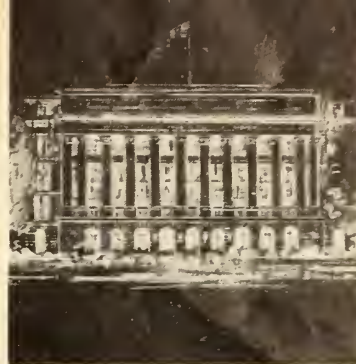
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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



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AUGUST 28, 1969

Hekman To Head New Food and Nutrition Service

Edward J. Hekman, a former food company executive with experience in public service organizations, was recently named by Secretary Hardin to head the new Food and Nutrition Service. Hekman is presently serving as vice-president of Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Ind.

A native of Grand Rapids, Mich., Hekman has held various positions with the United Biscuit Co. In 1960, he became president of the company and directed reorganization of a group of biscuit plants into a company with the single trade name of Keebler. In 1968, he resigned from that job to assume the post at Valparaiso.

Hekman has served as a trustee and director of the Nutrition Foundation which was founded by the food industry in the 1940's for research and education in the field of human nutrition; as director of the Grocery Manufacturers of America; and as vice-president of the National Association of Manufacturers. He also has served as an officer or director of several public service organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America, Y.M.C.A., and Lutheran Child Welfare.

Plans to create a Food and Nutrition Service within the Department of Agriculture were announced earlier by Secretary Hardin. The new agency, established in accordance with a directive of President Nixon, will be exclusively concerned with the administration of Federal food programs.

The Secretary pointed out that the work of the Food and Nutrition Service will be "very closely coordinated with the work of other Department agencies which can contribute and are contributing to our efforts to end malnutrition, particularly through nutrition research and education programs for low-income families."

The new service also will work closely with other Federal departments and agencies. This will be done through the sub-Cabinet working committee of the Urban Affairs Council.



OLIVER J. HODGE, a management analyst with the Office of Management Services, Washington, D.C., recently received a certificate of merit for designing a post card (fees paid) for Department-wide use. The new card will be the only one centrally stocked, once the supply of individual agency post cards is exhausted, resulting in a savings of time, money, and space. Hodge also received \$125 for his suggestion and was selected as July USDA Cost Reducer of the Month. Since 1959 Hodge has received a \$150 Performance Award, a Quality Step Increase, and four other cash awards for suggestions.

National Finance Office Planned for Forest Service

Plans for a National Finance Office for the Forest Service were announced recently by Secretary Hardin. Establishment of this office, to be located at Fort Collins, Colo., will lead to the consolidation of the accounting operations of the 150 Forest Service field offices into one central office.

"Over 75 percent of the Forest Service work is performed in the Rocky Mountain and Pacific States, with about 25 percent of the activities and the national headquarters office in the East," the Secretary said. A location in the Rocky Mountain area was thus strongly indicated with the Fort Collins location best meeting all requirements. It is accessible to national transportation and

EO Loan Borrowers Show Family Living Gains

A recent report by the Farmers Home Administration shows that borrowers with the economic opportunity loan program for 3 years recorded greater gains than those with the program only a year or two. Greater gains, yet, were made by families who received loans to develop small, nonagricultural businesses than by those who improved small farming operations.

The report was based on a survey FHA made last winter of borrowers in the 50 States and Puerto Rico.

Borrowers with nonagricultural loans increased their net income on the average of \$1,350; those with agricultural loans an average of \$1,100.

Nonagricultural borrowers showed net income of \$3,840 compared to \$2,950 net income of agricultural borrowers.

Rural families who received combined agricultural and nonagricultural EO loans averaged \$1,370 more in net income in 1968 than in the year before receiving the loan. Their net income of \$3,490 was less than that of nonagricultural borrowers but greater than that of agricultural borrowers.

Other parts of the survey revealed:

—that farmers on the program 3 years had on the average \$310 more in net worth than those with just a year's experience.

—that about 25 percent of the loans were made to Negro borrowers with most of the funds going to finance agricultural enterprises.

—that borrowers on the program only a year were able to have public assistance payments reduced as much as \$190 on the average.

communications facilities and is in accordance with the Departmental policy of locating facilities in lower population density areas.

The transition will take several years and will be accomplished with a minimum disruption of personnel and field operations, the Secretary said.

When fully implemented, the office will employ about 350 people.



THREE EXECUTIVE INTERNS of USDA were among the guests of Secretary Hardin at a recent breakfast. Pictured (left to right) are Dr. Caro Luhrs, White House Fellow assigned to USDA; Jon Massey, guest of the Secretary; Donald E. Brock, Assistant to the Secretary; Harold Gross, Office of Personnel; Dr. A. B. Park, Agricultural Research Service; Secretary Hardin; Intern Fred Lumsden; Mary Kady, Office of Personnel; Intern Anita Karcz; and Intern Mark Riddle.

Executive Interns Learn and Contribute

Three young college students, all headed into their senior year, have been hard at work this summer learning the functions of USDA firsthand and using impressive talents to perform meaningful jobs of their own.

The three, *Anita Karcz*, *Mark Riddle*, and *Fred Lumsden*, are known as Executive Interns. They are among 75 students participating in a program initiated this summer to place outstanding college and graduate students in important offices throughout the Federal Government. Executive Interns were selected from the more than 6,000 students who took Civil Service examinations and were judged eligible for summer employment in Washington, D.C.

In addition to the test scores, the Interns were selected on the basis of their school records, their fields of interest, and their potential for leadership.

Jobs for the Interns were created by the Cabinet Secretaries after consultation with the White House Fellows, a group of 19 young men and women who are spending a year working with top officials in the government.

Executive Intern *Anita Karcz* is from Fairview, Mass. She is a chemistry major at the University of Massachusetts where she is active in the student judicial system and a campus spiritual organization. At USDA, she is working in pesticide investigations under the supervision of *Dr. Philip C. Kearney*, Agricultural Research Service.

Mark Riddle, whose home is Tell City, Ind., has worked this summer for the Office of Personnel under the direction of *Harold Gross*. His assignment was to coordinate the Department's summer aide program and set up an evaluation for future aide programs. In addition,

Riddle worked on establishing a program for college students employed during the summer at USDA.

A political science and chemistry major at the University of Indiana, *Riddle* plans to attend graduate school and later enter the teaching field.

Intern *Fred Lumsden*, a physics major at the University of Missouri, is from Sikeston, Mo. This summer he has worked under the direction of *Dr. A. B. Park* of ARS to compute the orbit for the Earth Resources Satellite. This satellite is scheduled for launch in 1972. *Lumsden's* computations will furnish the satellite with an orbit that will best serve agriculture.

Besides being involved in their work, the Interns attended special seminars where they had the opportunity to talk with Cabinet and Congressional leaders as well as with other top Government officials.

TEN BOYS FROM the Atlanta Youth Center, Atlanta, Ga., recently spent 10 days at camps at Allatoona and Waco, Ga., thanks to USDA and Cooperative Extension Service employees—members of the USDA Club in Atlanta. Bonuses for each of the boys were Atlanta Braves baseball hats, balls, and bats presented by *Jay Meehan* (left), of the Consumer and Marketing Service and chairman of the USDA Club's activities committee. Also pictured from left are *Curtis Johnson*; *Allan Cosby*; *Helen Brickley*, Forest Service and chairman of the club's welfare committee; *Grady*

Burdette; *Dan Driggers*, Farmers Home Administration and vice-president of the Atlanta USDA Club; and (in the rear) *Terry Allan*, Atlanta Youth Council. The Atlanta USDA Club, one of the most active in the country, currently has nearly 500 members.



POULTRY LAW REQUIRES TEAMWORK

Steady progress is being made in the Federal-State partnership effort to extend strict inspection for wholesomeness to almost all poultry and poultry food products sold in the United States.

The Wholesome Poultry Products Act calls for a nationally uniform system of poultry inspection by August 1971. To achieve this, each State is given until August 1970—or an additional year if significant progress is being made—to build a poultry inspection system that measures up to the Federal program operated by the Consumer and Marketing Service.

Between August 1968—when the new Federal law was enacted—and June 1969, a number of steps were taken to assure that strict inspection standards will cover the 13 percent of U.S. poultry supply not covered by Federal inspection because of its movement only within State lines.

A sum-up shows that:

*Federal-State teams completed surveys to evaluate inspection needs of non-federally inspected poultry processing operations in 49 States and Puerto Rico.

*Seven States—California, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Missouri, Delaware, Virginia, and Florida—were granted Federal assistance through cooperative agreements for developing strict inspection programs.

*More than 600,000 pounds of poultry products, found in marketing channels to be in violation of the law, were detained in 85 separate actions.

*Twenty-two poultry plants were identified by USDA in cooperation with State officials, as constituting a danger to public health, with follow-up action by States to see that conditions were corrected.

Osprey Protection Planned

The Forest Service recently announced plans to establish the first management area to preserve a breeding ground for the American osprey, a fish hawk which is losing its battle for survival.

The bird, resembling a bald eagle, has a wing span of 4½ to 6 feet. Its most spectacular habit is that of catching fish, plummeting claws first into the water to capture its prey.

The new management program, in cooperation with the Oregon Game Commission and the Bureau of Reclamation, involves a favored nesting area of the ospreys at Crane Prairie Reservoir in the Deschutes National Forest in Oregon.

In a survey of the area last year, the Forest Service found 50 nests, 27 of which were being used by nesting birds. Forest Service Chief *Edward P. Cliff* said this is definitely the largest concentration of active nests in the Pacific Northwest and perhaps one of the largest in the Nation.

The birds arrive each spring at Crane Prairie, lay two to four eggs in nests precariously perched on dead snags, and raise their young during the summer. In September, they wing south for the winter—probably to Central and South America.

This is one of a growing number of management programs in National Forests designed to provide added habitat protection to rare, endangered, or unique wildlife species. Among the most notable are the bald eagle, Kirtland's warbler, and California condor programs.

Of the approximately 150 species of wildlife listed as rare or endangered, one-third live in or near National Forests. The Forest Service has either drawn up plans for, or is giving special habitat management emphasis to 26 of these.

Midwinter Outlook Conference Set

The National Agricultural Outlook Conference, held annually by USDA in Washington, D.C., is scheduled for February 16-18, 1970. This midwinter time was selected again because of the general success of the 1969 conference.

Midwinter scheduling allows for more timely analysis and discussion of customary start-of-the-year State of the Union, Budget, and Economic messages and their implications for agriculture. Prior conferences had been held in the fall of each year.

Traditional topics—such as developments in commodities, food, and family living—will continue to receive comprehensive coverage at the conference.

MRS. VIOLA ARMSTRONG was besieged by newsmen during the historic moon exploration flight. A retired employee of the Auglaize (Ohio) County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service Office, she continued to answer questions politely and concisely before batteries of microphones and cameras as newsmen sought her reaction to the historic voyage.



MOTHER OF ASTRONAUT COMMANDER IS ASCS RETIREE

The mother of astronaut *Neil A. Armstrong* could take a professional interest in his lunar surface sampling technique. Soil samples were a basic, if unspectacular, step in her work as conservation programs clerk until *Mrs. Viola Armstrong* retired from the Auglaize County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service Office in Wapakoneta, Ohio.

Her first retirement check arrived the day following the astronaut's moon walk along with letters and telegrams that required 3 hours for opening.

The reactions of Mrs. Armstrong and her husband, *Stephen*, were recorded during each major activity phase of the flight of the *Columbia* and *Eagle*. The three television networks pooled coverage of the astronaut's parents with a transmitting antenna towering 80 feet above the driveway of their attractive home at 912 Neil Armstrong Drive, Wapakoneta. Over 70 newsmen were on hand during the moon walk phase of the adventure.

The quiet composure of Mrs. Armstrong throughout the ordeal was no surprise to her former associates in the Auglaize office where she worked for more than 7 years.

She was highly regarded as adept in working with farmers and others who visited the office. There, Mrs. Armstrong shared counter duties with *Mrs. Betty Wehrle*, in receiving all comers.

Thomas Byrne, county ASC committee chairman, recalls, "Viola certainly met the public well; farmers got prompt, courteous, and complete service from her. Always."

Don Steiner, office manager, remarks on how well she separated life as mother

of the first civilian astronaut from her office duties: "Of course there were times when we knew she was concerned. Only once, however, did she betray anxiety. That was during Neil's 1966 space flight when something went wrong." [A thruster fired unexpectedly and threw the spacecraft into wide gyrations.]

Wapakoneta advertised itself as "home of the first civilian astronaut," but few people connected the unassuming and efficient ASCS clerk with the daring Neil Armstrong. In time, however, everything and everyone connected with astronaut Armstrong became a source of curiosity. The pressure of continuing and mounting public attention was cited as a factor in Mrs. Armstrong's decision to resign.

Now, ASC committeeman *Willis Miller*, whose farm is adjacent to Wapakoneta's Neil Armstrong Airport, reports visitors are taking samples from those grounds.

The *Stephen K. Armstrongs* have two other children. Son *Dean* is a Purdue graduate employed as an engineer in Indiana. Daughter *June*, trained as a registered nurse, now lives in Wisconsin with her doctor husband.

Son Neil had his eyes on the stars from the age of 6 when he first flew as a passenger in an airplane. At 14, his parents vetoed his decision to order a war surplus plane. Licensed as a pilot at 16, he flew Navy fighters in Korean combat, returned to civilian life and was a test pilot for the rocket-powered X-15 before his selection as an astronaut.

Today, Mrs. Armstrong admits to friends that she is concerned for her son's safety during his space adventures, but declares she is happy that Neil is doing what he wants to do.



VOYA RAYKOVIC "bones-up" on some of the latest developments in animal diseases research at ARS' Veterinary Biologics Division, Ames, Iowa.

SCIENTIST BECOMES NATIVE TO A FOREIGN LAND

The employee training program of USDA may mean different things to different workers. But to *Voya Raykovic*, the program means overcoming a double handicap—being totally deaf since birth and in a country where the native language is not his own.

Raykovic, a native of Yugoslavia, is a microbiologist for the Agricultural Research Service in Ames, Iowa. When he's not solving technical problems that occur in Government check tests on the quality of animal vaccines, he attends Iowa State University, concentrating on fast lip reading to understand English better and to reduce his accent. Raykovic's instructor reports that "Raykovic is probably as good a lip reader as one will encounter. What he has been able to accomplish is remarkable."

Unusual language feats, however, seem

commonplace for Raykovic. After graduating from the University of Belgrade in 1950, he set out to learn German just so he could study further in Hanover, Germany. Later, he turned his linguistic talent to Swedish in order to work at a hospital in Goteborg. He decided to master English when he moved to the United States in 1959. Besides German, Swedish, and English, Raykovic understands Russian, Italian, Spanish French, and Serbian, his native tongue.

But his accomplishments don't end at linguistics. He is a skier par excellence, and in the 1953 Olympics contest for the deaf at Oslo, Norway, he took second place in slalom racing.

Raykovic's wife also is deaf, but their two daughters have no hearing impediment.

Raykovic came to work for USDA in 1967.

CUTTING CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION COSTS

Two new construction techniques being developed by Agricultural Research Service scientists may cut costs of building concrete structures and aid in developing low-cost housing.

Engineers *Joseph W. Simons* and *B. Carl Haynes, Jr.*, of Athens, Ga., are developing thin sections of concrete—reinforced with short steel fibers—for slab-on-grade floor construction. (Slab-on-grade simply means pouring concrete

on a compacted earth or gravel base.)

These precast sections are laid on the compacted base and topped with more concrete thus saving on-site labor. Adding 2 percent of steel fibers (by volume) to the mix has doubled slab strength as compared to non-reinforced concrete.

This method could reduce the amount of concrete needed, and cut handling equipment and transportation costs.

Another method showing promise is

NINE MORE AREAS RECEIVE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

Secretary Hardin recently designated nine more areas in seven States for the Food Stamp Program. These areas will be operating a USDA family food program for the first time.

So far, 2,733 of the Nation's 3,129 counties and independent cities are or soon will be offering food coupons (food stamps) or donated foods to their needy families.

The Food Stamp Program enables eligible low-income families to increase their food-purchasing power by investing their own food money in Federal food coupons worth more than they paid. The coupons are spent like cash at retail food stores, enabling families to purchase a more adequate diet.

Families in the newly designated areas will begin receiving food stamps after State officials have taken the steps needed for effective and efficient operation.

These steps include training welfare case workers in the community on Food Stamp Program objectives and procedures, arranging for coupon issuance, and certifying families as eligible for the program. At the same time, Consumer and Marketing Service personnel will meet with retail grocers and food wholesalers to assure their understanding of the food industry role before being authorized to accept and redeem the food coupons.

The new areas by States are: IOWA, Fayette County; KANSAS, Reno County; MICHIGAN, Midland County; MINNESOTA, Freeborn County; MONTANA, Chouteau, Prairie, and Custer Counties; NEBRASKA, Burt County; and NEW YORK, Chenango County.

"The development of sound, effective, and acceptable farm programs for the 1970's will require increased understanding on the part of American consumers of agriculture's problems, needs, and contribution to the national economy."

—Secretary Hardin
August 4, 1969
Gridley, Ill.

surface bonding of stacked concrete blocks, eliminating the use of mortar. The bonding mix contains ½-inch lengths of chopped fiberglass filaments and can be applied as fast as paint. Initial tests with the mix indicate that joints are several times stronger than those where regular mortar is used.

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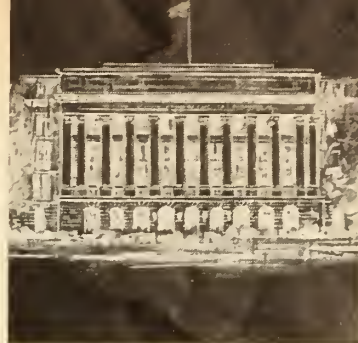
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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



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SEPT. 11, 1969

USDA RESPONDS TO DISASTER IN THE WAKE OF CAMILLE

Within a short time after the awesome force of Camille ripped through Mississippi and Louisiana, USDA personnel were supplying food, materials, and other assistance to the hurricane's thousands of victims. Similar response occurred in Virginia where Camille, transformed into a massive rainstorm, unleashed torrential rains on the James River Basin a few days later.

Field forces of USDA in the three States performed valiant work beyond their normal call of duty. In many localities, USDA people who live in or nearby the stricken communities were first to reach homes of storm victims with help and reassurance.

Upon realization of the intensity with which Camille had ravaged the Gulf Coast, Secretary Hardin dispatched a task force, headed by Executive Assistant *E. F. Behrens*, for an on-the-site inspection of major categories of needs that agencies of the USDA could meet.

These were: (1) The needs of refugees and storm-stranded residents for food, (2) The needs to assess damages to agricultural lands, animals, crops, and facilities, (3) The needs for assistance in salvaging as much downed timber as possible; to reduce insect infestations that would spread to and destroy remaining healthy stands; and the need to guard against the high risk of forest fires, (4) The needs for spraying areas where large accumulations of dead animals and debris could lead to the proliferation of flies and mosquitos and the need to fight fire ants which were spread throughout the area by the storm.

James Farrar, officer in charge of Food and Nutrition Service, McComb, Miss., rushed to hard-hit Bay St. Louis immediately following the storm. He arranged for foods to be brought in to meet estimated needs of the community. The next day he found 3,000 families without food in D'Iberville, across the bay from Biloxi. He again got word out and food was helicoptered in from Jackson.

Hollis Henry, assistant to FNS commodity district supervisor, *John Hughes*, and several assistants went to Gulfport



NATIONAL GUARD TROOPS unload USDA food for distribution to emergency feeding stations and outlets in North Biloxi, Miss. More than 5.3 million pounds of USDA food was made available to feed survivors of Camille's visit to Mississippi, Louisiana, and Virginia.

as soon as an automobile could get through. They worked around the clock to set up and maintain food distribution operations throughout the critical emergency period. Meanwhile, *Hughes* and his staff were busy in Jackson coordinating distribution of emergency foods throughout the stricken areas along the coast.

Approximately 250,000 pounds of food were sent into Shreveport, La., for distribution to hurricane victims, mainly in Plaquemines and Washington Parishes. *John J. Slaughter*, FNS Regional Director at Dallas, Tex., reported that his office had a team of men in the area during the storm to set up emergency food operations.

Truckloads of USDA food were rushed to Virginia immediately after the still-dangerous Camille had dumped from 10 to a reported 27 inches of rain on some areas. FNS personnel were on the scene to distribute the foods.

An immediate allocation of \$300,000 was made to the Mississippi Agricultural

Stabilization and Conservation State Committee for clearing debris-strewn land and building new fences. Funds were later made available to the Virginia ASC State Committee for similar use. In both States, ASCS extended emergency grazing privileges on reserve cropland taken out of production. Officials said that more ASCS funds may be made available later for a broader range of necessary practices and programs.

Preliminary estimates from a Forest Service aerial survey of coastal Mississippi and western Virginia indicate that more than 450,000 acres of timberland are heavily damaged with an additional 750,000 acres classified as lightly to moderately damaged. In hard-hit DeSoto National Forest in Mississippi a survey team reported timber covering 6,000 to 8,000 acres was down or badly damaged with heavy damage to roads, bridges, buildings, and other facilities.

At Gulfport, where damages to the Forest Service research buildings are

(continued on page 2)



EDITOR BERYLE STANTON (seated) is proud of the December 1968 issue of "News for Farmer Cooperatives." It won third place and a plaque for best use of photographs in a general circulation magazine in the Cooperative Editorial Association's Annual competition at the University of Chicago, Illinois. Visual specialists (from left) Clarence Johnson, Helen Spurzem, and Osceola Madden also get credit. All are Division of Information staff members, Office of Management Services, in Washington, D.C.

(continued from page one)

estimated upward of \$100,000, a forest seed orchard was a near victim of the hurricane. The seeds, which must be kept under refrigeration to germinate, were saved when a portable generator was brought in from a Texas Job Corps Center to provide power during a 48-hour blackout.

About 100 campers spending the night beside Sherando Lake in Virginia's George Washington National Forest were saved from possible drowning and injury when *Max Downey* braved Camille's deluge to warn them of flash flooding. Downey, area administrator of the Forest Service campground, arrived at the lake about 2 a.m., aroused the sleeping campers, and helped them to higher ground. He carried several of the campers on his back across flooded ground as Sherando's normal 6 acres rapidly grew to almost 50 acres.

Thirty-three Mississippi and 25 Virginia counties have been designated eligible for Farmers Home Administration emergency loans to restore farm operations, and the agency's housing loan program will also be called into use in the disaster areas. In Mississippi alone, Camille's tidal waves and 200-m.p.h winds destroyed an estimated 366 farm buildings and caused major damage to another 400.

The Rural Electrification Administration made \$2.3 million in emergency loans funds immediately available to four cooperative rural electric systems in Mississippi to speed temporary power to service areas blacked out by Camille. Another \$6.3 million in REA loans were approved to enable three of these cooperatives to install permanent lines and equipment to replace those destroyed by the storm. Temporary service to most of the consumers was restored through around-the-clock efforts of the cooperatives' crews with help from neighboring States and areas.

The wife of a USDA employee who had

the only workable telephone in her area became virtually a one-woman communications network for the Agricultural Research Service emergency activities in Camille's aftermath.

Mrs. George Dumal of Gulfport made the living room of her home a communications center for the ARS Southern Regional Plant Pest Control Division Headquarters for the 7 days Headquarters telephones were out of commission. Using the family telephone and a two-way radio supplied by USDA, she served as the main link with officials in Washington, D.C., disaster headquarters, and emergency workers at the scene. Mrs. Dumal's husband is administrative officer at the PPC Regional office.

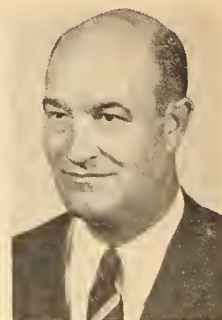
The improvised communications system enabled PPC to carry out many emergency measures. One of the most important was the spray program against massive numbers of flies, mosquitoes, and other disease-carrying pests attracted to the flood area. The spraying operations also included aerial application of Mirex bait to 75,000 acres of Gulf Coast land to protect people from the painful stings of imported fire ants scattered about by the winds and rains. The bait was donated by the manufacturer.

These items barely touch on the many instances of single and combined action of USDA personnel to bring aid to Camille's victims. Many of the actions saved lives; many were acts of heroism. In the words of *James V. Smith*, FHA Administrator, "... perhaps the most effective response by people of USDA agencies was their immediate mobilization to go into the rural disaster areas by helicopter where roads and bridges were demolished, make contact with the people, and let them know that the world was aware of their tragedy."

Kirby Named Associate Administrator of FES

Edwin L. Kirby, Columbus, Ohio, was recently named Associate Administrator of the Federal Extension Service.

In announcing the appointment, Secretary Hardin said that Kirby is uniquely qualified to serve in the USDA post.



E. L. KIRBY

The new Associate Administrator has been associate director of the Cooperative Extension Service, Ohio State University, since 1964. Earlier he served as assistant director of the Ohio Extension Service, Extension district supervisor, assistant State 4-H Club leader, associate county agent, and a high school vocational agricultural teacher.

Kirby is a member of the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP). He served as chairman of the ECOP Legislative Committee and as chairman of the North Central Extension Directors. He was a recent chairman of the National Task Force on Cooperative Extension In-Service Training, and a member of the Advisory Board for the National Project on Agricultural Communications.

Kirby holds degrees from Ohio State University and Cornell University. He also has done graduate work at the Universities of Maryland and Wisconsin and at Ohio State University.



DR. WILLIAM E. SHAKLEE (left), president of the Organization of Professional Employees of the Department of Agriculture, and Carl B. Barnes, USDA director of personnel, conclude the signing of a recent agreement between USDA and OPEDA providing for the voluntary withholding of dues for employees who are OPEDA members.

Soil Conservation Service Helps 'Branch Out'

At the entrance to an 8,800-acre ranch in Loraine, Tex., is a plaque telling how *Daniel Webster* "80 John" Wallace (1860-1939), born of slave parents, became a cowboy at age 15 and rode with a trailherd from Old Mexico to Kansas. The marker was put there by the Texas State Historical Survey Committee because "80 John" Wallace helped pioneer the Old West.

The history surrounding Wallace's life abounds with tales of cattle barons, the Chisholm Trail, the fast gun, and life among the Comanches.

Wallace went to work for a rancher in Colorado City, Tex., in 1877, picking up the name "80 John" because the rancher's cattle had number "80" burned on their sides.

He acted on the advice of his boss and began buying up rangeland at \$1.50 an acre. In 1891, he started his own ranch on which oil was later discovered.

At the time of his death, Wallace owned more than 9,000 acres of land, 600 head of cattle, an eight-room house, and barn lots and corrals.

Today, *Travis S. Branch*, Wallace's son-in-law, is boss of the historic ranch. Branch, an outstanding cooperator in USDA's Great Plains Conservation Program, knows well the worth of efficient management of land, grass, water, and cattle. And he has benefited from successful conservation practices which ranchers have been applying for years.

The Great Plains Conservation Program, administered by the Soil Conservation Service, provides technical aid and cost-sharing to farmers and ranchers for installing conservation measures to improve the land.

Under the terms of two contracts with SCS, Branch has formulated plans for water and fencing to get the best use of his grassland. He has developed irrigated pasture for a dependable forage supply; terraced the sloping cropland on which he rotates cotton, grain, and sorghum; and managed the residues from crops to control wind erosion.

The result has been a profitable ranching operation, with all resources protected against the hazards that cattlemen in the area have grown to expect.

Branch is concerned, but mildly so, about finding full-time help to work the "80 John." Says Branch, "I don't believe the younger generation is cut out for this kind of life. I'm not a youngster any more and I can't move about as fast as I could even a year ago, but I can think of nothing I would rather do than live and work out here in the open. A ranch-



TRAVIS S. BRANCH, manager of the "80 John" Wallace ranch at Loraine, Tex., inspects a sign that signifies his membership in the Mitchell County Soil and Water Conservation District. Branch also participates in the Soil Conservation Service's Great Plains Conservation Program.

Agri Briefs

AGRICULTURAL WASTE PRODUCTS can be made into products useful to man. For example, sugar cane stalks are made into wallboard, and oat hulls are transformed into valuable chemicals. Why isn't this sort of thing done more?

USDA scientists have made good paper from straw and have found ways to make useful products out of corn cobs. But such wastes accumulate in small quantities at farms and feed mills. It does not pay to transport them to central points for processing. Sugar cane stalks and oat hulls can be used because they accumulate in large quantities at certain factories.

Timber sales from National Forests in the 13 Southern States **FOR THE FIRST TIME** totaled more than 1 billion board feet for a single year. Thus the South joins four other Forest Service regions as producers of a billion or more board feet of timber. (A board foot is 1 foot square and 1 inch deep.)

The new record chalked up by the South is a particular success because that region is comparatively new as a timber production area.

SWEET SORGHUM may become a supplementary source of sugar because of a new method of removing starch from sorghum juice.

Research leading to the discovery was conducted by chemist B. Ashby Smith at an Agricultural Research Service laboratory in Weslaco, Tex.

Sweet sorghum is an easily managed crop that requires little labor and water. Yield is about 20 tons of stalks per acre and raw sugar content ranges from 180 to 230 pounds per ton.

er's life may be rugged, but it's rewarding."

Were he alive today, "80 John" Wallace would probably nod his approval.

HOW LONG IS A FOOT?

If a yard is the length of an arm, whose arm should be used as the standard?

Despite the fact that Jefferson, Adams, Franklin, and Lincoln all advocated the metric system of measurement, the United States has not yet officially adopted it—even though it is legal here and more than 90 percent of the world has adopted it.

In 1960 virtually the only countries not officially on the metric system were the English-speaking nations. Since then, the British Government has ordered a changeover to be completed before 1975. A Canadian commission expects to report favorably this year.

A 1967 study estimated that a 20-year conversion period would cost about \$11 billion. But it has also been estimated that *not* changing costs the United States \$10 to \$25 billion annually in world trade. Each year's delay boosts conversion costs by about 7 percent.

As a result of congressional action in 1968, a 3-year feasibility study is underway in the United States. Many major manufacturers, the military services, all the sciences, international sports—among others—have already moved into metric designations.

FHA Interest Rates Changed for Investors

Interest yields up to 8.50 percent on government insured notes issued by the Farmers Home Administration were recently announced by *Dr. Marshall Burkes*, assistant administrator for insured loans.

The new rates, effective August 18, return 8.50 percent to investors on FHA insured notes held for periods of 10 through 25 years. Insured notes held 3, 4, or 5 years yield 8.25 percent interest and those held 1 or 2 years return 8 percent.

FHA insured notes previously returned a flat 8 percent to investors for terms ranging from 1 through 25 years.

Dr. Burkes also announced that the notes are available in blocks of \$10,000 or more. The new minimum purchase order was raised from \$5,000 because few notes of that denomination were available. There is no maximum limit on the amount of an investment.

The agency's insured loan volume approximated \$1 billion in the fiscal year ended June 30 and is budgeted at \$1.7 billion this fiscal year. The notes cover loans advanced by FHA for housing, farming, and community facility projects, including water and waste disposal systems in rural areas.



MISS VIRGINIA L. RODRIGUEZ (right), a Family Service Specialist in Espanola, N. Mex., visits one of the families receiving Farmers Home Administration assistance.

Family Service Specialists Lend A Helping Hand

"As I walked into the house I saw that there were very large holes in the roof, and no panes or screens in the windows. An open well stood in the yard with water which was unsafe for drinking.

"An elderly widow who had a stroke last year cannot care properly for the three children and six grandchildren living with her. The children run around the house filthy and dirty, letting in plenty of flies. A 5-week-old baby is so tiny that she doesn't have enough energy to cry very loudly."

This was the scene that greeted Mrs. Ruby Brown as a newly hired Family Service Specialist with the Farmers Home Administration. It is a typical scene for the rural poor.

Mrs. Brown helped the family receive an FHA rural housing loan for a new seven-room house, complete with running water, bathroom and proper lighting, and sufficient screening against insects. She also accompanied the family on their first visit to the local health center.

FHA has 69 such specialists trained in home economics and the social services who work in 112 low-income counties in 21 States and Puerto Rico. Their work is based on home visits to loan borrowers' families. There, the specialist shows homemakers how to make and repair the

family's clothing as well as how to prepare nutritious meals using USDA commodity foods. The specialist also encourages homemakers to take advantage of programs such as the Food Stamp Program to make the best use of family income.

The Family Service Specialist makes sure, too, that the family has the proper health care. She urges them to visit their local health center and aids them in understanding the importance of good health practices.

The specialist helps families to improve their general living conditions. She suggests loans they may apply for from FHA, and helps the homemaker make curtains, refinish used furniture, and buy inexpensive, but adequate, equipment.

She also encourages unemployed heads of households to visit local job employment centers. In 1968, 374 people were referred to job centers and all found employment.

All in all, the work of the Family Service Specialist is very rewarding—she can see the results of her efforts in helping the rural poor pull themselves up out of poverty.

It takes 1 ACRE OF HEALTHY FOREST 20 years to grow the lumber for a five-room house.

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APPOINTMENTS

Secretary Hardin recently named FRED W. BENSON and ELMO A. CARLSON to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation's Board of Directors. They join three USDA officials previously appointed to the five-man board—Assistant Secretary Clarence D. Palmby, chairman; Carroll G. Brunt-haver, associate administrator, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service; and Richard H. Aslakson, manager, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.

The board serves as the policy-making body for FCIC, which pays indemnities to Federally insured farmers whose crops are damaged by weather, insects, or disease.

Benson is vice-president of a crop insurance firm in Iowa; president of the Crop Insurance Research Bureau; vice-chairman of the National Crop Insurance Council; president of the Iowa Association of Mutual Insurance Associations; and a director and former president of the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies.

Carlson is vice-president and director of a bank in Chappell, Nebr.; partner in a local insurance firm; and owner-operator of a beef cattle feeding operation and wheat farm.

Two USDA employees, DONALD E. PERCIVAL of Milwaukee, Wis., and HENRY S. RODRIGUEZ of Washington, D.C., were among the 25 employees from 17 Federal agencies and the District of Columbia Government selected to participate in the 1969-70 Congressional Fellowship Program.

Percival is with the Forest Service's Office of Personnel in Region IX. Rodriguez is chief of the Private School Operations Branch, School Lunch Division, Food and Nutrition Service.

The Fellowship Program, which runs from mid-November 1969 until September 1970, offers promising young Federal executives the opportunity to acquire a thorough understanding of congressional operations. They assume full-time assignments in congressional offices or with committees and attend weekly seminars with Members of Congress and other Government officials.

CLARENCE L. MILLER of Shelbyville, Ky., and a former Assistant Secretary of Agriculture was recently named as agricultural attaché on the staff of the U.S. Embassy in Madrid, Spain.

Miller ran a family farm near Shelbyville from 1940 until 1953 when he was named chairman of the Kentucky Production and Marketing Administration State Committee of USDA. He later came to Washington, D.C., where he worked with the Commodity Stabilization Service (now the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service) until 1958 when he was appointed Assistant Secretary for Marketing and Foreign Agriculture.

Miller returned to Kentucky in 1962 to operate his farm and serve as a marketing consultant.

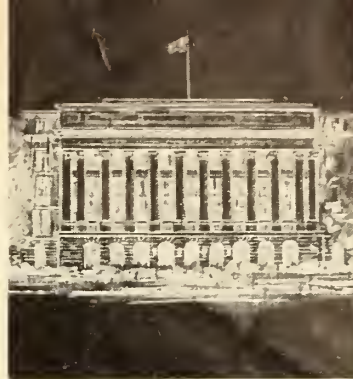
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Armored Trucks Increase Food Stamp Sales

More residents of Los Angeles County public housing projects are now able to participate in the Food and Nutrition Service's Food Stamp Program largely because of a new service—the use of armored trucks for issuing food stamps to participants in their own neighborhood.

The new service, a cooperative effort of businessmen, public officials, and private social service agencies, provides both check cashing and food stamp purchasing, making it easier for more low-income families to buy the stamps.

United California Bank experimented with an armored truck unit at one housing project to relieve congestion at a branch bank on the days when welfare and pay checks arrive and most food stamps purchases are made. The experiment was an immediate success and the Los Angeles Department of Public Services took over the operation, expanding to seven housing projects on a scheduled basis.

At one housing project, the neighborhood YWCA Center took over promotion of the truck sales. A group of women delivered flyers in Spanish and English to each of the project's 412 families, explained the new service, and urged eligible persons to participate in the Food Stamp Program.

On the days the truck visits the housing project, Spanish interpreters, provided by the YWCA Center, stand by as armored truck guards check identification, cash checks, and issue food stamps.

Sally Detra, YWCA director at the housing project, says, "Truck sales have been a complete success. The convenience is increasing participation in the Food Stamp Program among project residents because they no longer need spend half a day going to the bank."

Average CONSUMPTION OF MUSTARD in the United States amounts to about one-half pound per person—or about five times what it was in 1920. Montana is the mustard seed-producing king among the States.



EVAN MERRILL, SCS hydraulic engineer from Boise, Idaho, shows Boy Scouts at the Jamboree how the action of falling raindrops can cause erosion on bare soil, but not on soil protected by grass or mulch. This demonstration was part of the conservation instruction area at the Jamboree where Scouts learned basic principles of resource use and management.

USDA Exhibits Are Jamboree Attractions

Exhibits and demonstrations developed by Department agencies were among the major attractions at the 7th National Scout Jamboree held at Faragut State Park, Idaho, in July. More than 30,000 Boy Scouts and Explorers attended the Jamboree.

"Conservation—Today's Frontier" was the theme of the Soil Conservation Service exhibit which included two model watersheds. One showed a typical Western watershed and its natural resources before the settlers, loggers, and hunters arrived on the scene. The second depicted conservation practices on the same watershed today when the needs of both agriculture and urban areas are being met through good resource use and management.

Typical soil profiles from various parts of the country were also on display, together with a full-color mural showing how snow surveys determine the available seasonal water supply from high-country snowpacks for use on farms and in towns in the valleys below.

Forest Service personnel explained firefighting equipment used by smokejumpers, and manned a full-scale fire

tower to show Scouts the importance of protecting the Nation's forests.

A slide-tape program prepared by the Agricultural Research Service told how remote sensing devices are used in researching vegetation management projects. Each Scout received a copy of the ARS magazine, *Agricultural Research*, with a story and full-color photographs giving further details on remote sensing research methods. Also in use as an instructional feature was an electrical question and answer board on plant pest control which could be operated individually by the Scouts.

The USDA exhibits were also viewed by the several thousand visitors to the Jamboree.

At the close of the Jamboree, Scouts prepared a "Commitment to Action" statement calling for youth involvement in today's major problems. Conservation placed second on the list with emphasis on air and water pollution, soil erosion, diminishing wildlife, plants, and trees.

The statement commits each Scout to work toward intelligent use of natural resources in home communities.



ARTHUR W. GREELEY, Associate Chief of the Forest Service, and Jackie Benington, America's Junior Miss for 1969, discuss the book, "The National Forests of America," presented to Miss Benington as a remembrance of her visit to Forest Service National Headquarters. Miss Benington, a native of Huntington Beach, Calif., was selected as the Nation's ideal high school senior girl at the 12th Annual Junior Miss Pageant in Mobile, Ala. While in Washington, D.C., she stopped at USDA to lend a hand in the anti-litter campaign and to promote National Forest vacations.

SCS WATERSHED PROJECT PROVES ITS VALUE

Dramatic proof that small watershed projects administered by the Soil Conservation Service are highly effective in preventing floods came out of a record thunderstorm recently in north central Tennessee.

Two adjoining watersheds—Salt Lick Creek and Jennings Creek—were both deluged by eight to nine inches of rain in 6 hours. Two lives were lost and several million dollars in damages occurred in the unprotected Salt Lick Creek watershed. In the protected Jennings Creek watershed, damages were limited to an estimated \$200,000.

The nearly completed Jennings Creek project prevented an estimated \$1 million in damages—almost one-third of the project's total cost. This savings is based on damages suffered in storms before the watershed project was built. Ten earthen dams, of the 12 dams planned, held back the flood's crest, releasing water more slowly for hours after the storm.

Most of the damage along the Salt Lick Creek was suffered by the resort community of Red Boiling Springs in Macon County. About 35 homes and 15 businesses were torn from their foundations and at least 120 automobiles were swept away in the flash flood. Two young

girls were pulled from their mother's grasp and drowned.

Less severe storms frequently bring flooding to the Salt Lick Creek watershed and residents had considered a small watershed project under Public Law 566. It was turned down, however, when community leaders could not raise the local share of the project cost.

Soon after the recent floods, the Red Boiling Springs City Council passed a resolution requesting SCS assistance for a project in the Salt Lick Creek watershed.

Meanwhile, several USDA agencies are joining in the restoration of stream channels, agricultural lands, and other flooded areas in four counties.

SCS district conservationists, *Arthur Fuqua*, *Bill Medley*, *Marion Simpson*, and *Bob Wylie* are directing technical assistance.

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service will provide 80 percent cost-sharing on \$250,000 in assistance to the four counties. ASCS farmer field men in the area are *Levi Dickerson* and *John Collier*.

Charles Keisling, Farmers Home Administration county supervisor at Red Boiling Springs, is taking applications for FHA housing loans.

STATES COLLECT FROM NATIONAL FOREST FUND

Thirty-nine States and Puerto Rico are receiving record returns this year as their shares of receipts from products and services of the 187 million acres of National Forests administered by the Forest Service.

Secretary Hardin announced that the returns total \$78,151,846 for the 1968-69 fiscal year. Last year the refund total was \$52 million.

The money represents approximately one-fourth of the total funds received from timber harvests, grazing fees, recreation, power, and other land-use fees collected from National Forests.

The so-called "25 percent fund" is distributed annually through State Treasurers to counties in which National Forests are located. The money must be spent by the counties for schools and roads.

Guidelines Are Issued On Training Agreements

Federal agencies have been told by the Civil Service Commission that training agreements using written tests must be modified to conform to the new merit promotion policy or they will be canceled. The revised Federal Merit Promotion Policy became effective July 1.

Training agreements are developed by agencies and approved by the Commission as a means of providing intensive and specialized training for employees who lack the experience needed to perform a new job. The agreements enable agencies to bring employees into a new field of work and to train them fully in a minimum of time. Many agreements provide for promotion of the employee either during or at the completion of the training period.

The new policy provides that for promotions, transfers, or other placement actions, a written test may *not* be used as a screening device. Nor may a written test be used as the sole means of evaluating candidates. A written test, however, may be used for in-service placement only when it is required by Commission standards or when the test and testing procedures meet Commission guidelines.

The Commission emphasized that its approval in the past of a test or testing procedure in a training agreement does *not* constitute its approval for use after June 30, 1969.

NITROCELLULOSE, derived mainly from wood pulp, is a major ingredient of some solid fuel propellants for rockets.

A Stream In Profile

A unique visitor information facility was recently completed and dedicated in the Eldorado National Forest in California. Located on the South Shore of Lake Tahoe, the Forest Service's Rainbow Pool-Taylor Creek Stream Profile Chamber is the only one of its kind open to the public.

The Chamber is built parallel to Taylor Creek, half-in and half-out of the ground so that visitors may look into the "profile" of a live mountain stream. A 33-foot expanse of windows with 2½-inch-thick glass allows viewers to see numerous types of aquatic life in their natural-habitat. Inside the Chamber, exhibits and displays help visitors identify the fish and understand other features of life in the stream.

Of particular interest are the Kokanee Salmon. During the fall spawning season tens of thousands of these fish, turned a brilliant red, invade Taylor Creek in an instinctive run upstream to lay their eggs and then to die. The Stream Profile Chamber provides a spectacular view of the spawning run. Various types of trout are also a popular sight.

Taylor Creek is itself unique. Although some 63 tributaries empty into Lake Tahoe, almost 90 percent of the stream spawning by various species of fish in the Tahoe Basin takes place in Taylor Creek. This is partially because of Forest Service management of the stream flow: Water is stored behind a dam, and released as needed to maintain the optimum flow to suit the needs for spawning.

New Discovery By USDA-OSU Team

A team of USDA and Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station scientists has discovered a mycoplasma in plants closely related to similar microorganisms found in animals. It is the first such organism to be isolated and grown in artificial media.

Dr. Richard O. Hampton, Agricultural Research Service plant pathologist, discovered the new mycoplasma and developed techniques for isolating and purifying it.

Dr. Thomas C. Allen, Oregon State University plant pathologist, and *Dr. James O. Stevens*, OSU veterinarian, developed new methods for characterizing and producing the mycoplasma and for establishing its close relationship with others infectious to animals.

Mycoplasmas are associated with a number of human diseases including leukemia, arthritis, and pneumonia.



VISITORS TO THE Rainbow Pool-Taylor Creek Stream Profile Chamber learn about life in a mountain stream. As they listen to dialogue through earphones, they can view trout, salmon, and other aquatic life through windows built below the stream level. The creek bed can be seen sloping from right to center in the photograph.

THE GOLDEN AGE OF BUTTER

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the official U.S. Standards for Grades of Butter. These standards determine the quality of the product and are an important shopper's aid.

Last year about 65 percent of all butter sold in this country was officially graded by the Dairy Division of the Consumer and Marketing Service.

FARMERS CAST THEIR LOTS

Farmers in 3,061 counties throughout the Nation will vote during the last half of September for more than 131,000 Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation county and community committeemen and alternates.

These farmer-elected committees are the local administrators of Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service farm programs, such as acreage allotments, marketing quotas, and crop price supports.

A minimum of 3,061 regular ASC county committeemen will be elected, plus 6,122 alternates to serve when regular members cannot attend or a vacancy occurs. One regular member of each ASC county committee is elected annually to serve a 3-year term. Farmers in counties where vacancies have occurred will elect additional committeemen to serve out the vacancies. Alternates are elected for 1-year terms.

A total of 121,965 community committeemen and alternates will also be elected. Of these, 73,179 will be regular members, 48,786 will be alternates. All community committeemen and alternates are elected for 1-year terms.

The unique system of elected ASC committeemen provides direct representation of farmers in administration of farm programs and helps keep ASCS close to the "grassroots."

APPOINTMENTS

DR. IVAN A. WOLFF, Agricultural Research Service scientist, recently was named director of the Eastern Utilization Research and Development Division in Philadelphia, Pa. The EURDD is one of five ARS centers where research is carried on to find new and improved uses for agricultural products.

For the past 28 years, Dr. Wolff has conducted chemical research for ARS at the Peoria, Ill., laboratory. His early research led to the preparation of cellophane-like films from special starches.

Since 1956, he has been in charge of studies to exploit the industrial potential of many plants.

The appointment of **CLARENCE A. ANDERSON**, Salt Lake City, Utah, as State director of the Farmers Home Administration for Utah was recently announced by Secretary Hardin.

Anderson served as FHA's Utah State director from 1951 to 1961 when he became a credit examiner for a Salt Lake City banking institution.

Secretary Hardin recently announced the following appointments of agricultural attachés and officers:

WILLIAM VON SEGGERN, former agricultural attaché to Ankara, Turkey, and consultant to the Agency for International Development in Washington, D.C., and Djakarta, Indonesia, as agricultural attaché to Thailand;

JAMES C. FRINK, assistant agricultural attaché to Tokyo, Japan, since 1961, as agricultural attaché to Greece;

HARLAN J. DIRKS, head of the commodity analysis branch of the Livestock and Meat Products Division of the Foreign Agriculture Service since 1966, as agricultural attaché to Denmark. Dirks will have reporting responsibility for both Denmark and Norway;

RADO J. KINZHUWER, agricultural attaché in Lagos, Nigeria, since 1965, as agricultural officer at the American Consulate, Hamburg, Germany, where he will be assistant to the agricultural attaché in Bonn.

SCIENCE IS SUBJECT OF SLIDE SET SERIES

A color slide set now available from the USDA Office of Information tells how research, particularly that of the Department of Agriculture, is helping to keep America beautiful. It explains how Agricultural Research Service scientists are developing new plants capable of living with today's difficult growing conditions (such as auto fumes and heavy pavement); how the scientists are bringing ornamentals into the country for propagation and distribution; and how ARS personnel are guarding the Nation's borders against agricultural pests.

The slide set, "Science and America's Beauty," is one of a series of three pro-

duced by ARS on agricultural science.

These presentations are helpful to USDA people and others who have been asked to talk about Department activities before State, county, or even community groups. The sets can be ordered from the Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. They cost \$8 apiece and each is accompanied by two copies of the illustrated narrative guide or lecture notes.

All three are also available as filmstrips for \$5.50 each from the Photo Lab, Inc., 3825 Georgia Avenue NW., Washington, D.C. 20011.

The slide set series are described at right.



SCIENCE AND AMERICA'S BEAUTY, C-157, 47 frames. Tells what agricultural science is doing to Keep America Beautiful—from plant exploration around the world to scientific research at home.



SCIENCE AND FOOD FOR FREEDOM, C-138, 47 frames. Of increasing interest, this program shows how science is helping to produce more food in the world.

Nutrition Aides Work With Homemakers

Giving a cooking demonstration for a homemaker who had no skillet or serving dish was a recent project of a nutrition aide working with the Extension Service. The aide reported that a skillet and a dish were borrowed from the homemaker's neighbor, and "The cooking turned out pretty good except the food didn't brown because the homemaker's oven would only heat up to 225 degrees."

The nutrition aide is one of nearly 5,000 such aides in Extension's expanded food and nutrition education program. Extension began hiring and training the nonprofessional aides in January 1969, recruiting them from the neighborhoods in which they would work. By July 1 they were reaching almost 200,000 low-income families in selected areas of the 50 States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia.

An important part of the nutrition aides' work is helping families stretch their food dollar. One aide reported a family with whom she worked bought expensive specialty foods at the first of the month and were hungry enough to beg by the third week. She helped them make a food shopping list, accompanied them to the store, and helped select the staple foods first. She later reported that the father of the family was elated when he discovered that they had plenty to eat at the end of the month.

Another important job of the aides is to help families make the best use of the foods they receive through the USDA Commodity Distribution Program. One mother was in despair because her baby did not like the powdered milk. An aide discovered the mother was

trying to feed the child the milk still in powdered form.

Aides in one urban area put a new twist to the old method of cooking school. The aides visit homemakers to invite them to attend cooking demonstrations dealing entirely with foods received through the Commodity Distribution Program. The homemakers watch foods prepared and then take the recipes home to try.

Through home visits and personal contact with homemakers, the nutrition aides are bringing food and nutrition education where it is most needed. A typical comment that the aides hear is, "How wonderful that someone cares enough to send you to our door."

ACHIEVEMENTS

GEORGE H. FOSTER, a grain investigations leader for the Agricultural Research Service's Transportation and Facilities Research Division, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind., was recently honored by the American Society of Agricultural Engineers as an ASAE Paper Award winner.

Foster's paper, co-authored by Thomas L. Thompson and R. M. Peart, was one of eight selected by ASAE for awards. Over 300 papers were evaluated.

* * * * *

DR. H. M. CATHEY, leader of ornamental investigations for the Agricultural Research Service, was recently presented the 1969 Norman Jay Colman Award by the American Association of Nurserymen. The annual award, which is named for the first Secretary of Agriculture, is given for "outstanding contributions to horticultural research."



AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE PROTECTS OUR ENVIRONMENT, C-140, 49 frames. Science is finding new ways to cope with problems developing out of increased population and industrialization. Pollution of air and water and new ways to protect land for both conservation and beautification are among subjects discussed.

VICTORY AT SEA

In July, R. L. Beukenkamp, Foreign Agricultural Service coordinator, coached the Washington-Lee High School rowing crew (four with coxswain) to victory in the U.S. Youth Championship in Buffalo, N.Y. His son, Felix, is a member of the crew.

The Arlington, Va., crew also competed last month in the Youth World Regatta in Naples, Italy, finishing sixth.

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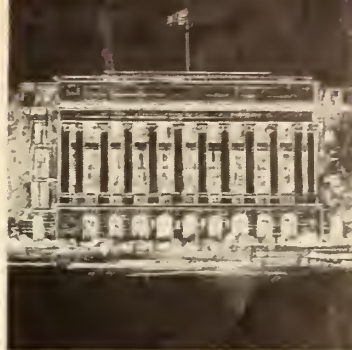
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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

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OCTOBER 9, 1969



Handcrafts Featured At Co-op Month Event

Fascinated visitors are crowding the exhibit area to watch *Richard Schnacke* whittle a *whimmy diddle* and *James Kilraine* decorate *pysanki* eggs.

Schnacke, from Proctor, W. Va., and Kilraine, from Branchdale, Pa., are among the craftsmen featured at the 1969 Co-op Month Crafts Exhibition in the Patio of the USDA Administration Building, Washington, D.C., during the October Co-op Month celebration.

The two men, along with the weavers, tinsmiths, rug makers, potters, woodcarvers, glassblowers, quilters and other craftsmen participating in the month-long exhibition, are preserving handcraft skills that are part of the American heritage. All the articles on display are the work of members of craft guilds or cooperatives representing 30 States.

A WHIMMY DIDDLE, a toy popular with children for more than 100 years, is one of the articles made by Richard Schnacke, a folk toy maker from West Virginia, at the 3d Annual Co-op Month Craft Exhibition. The propeller at the end of the notched stick whirls around when a second stick is run along the notches.



Each year these exhibits have drawn tourists, crafts "buffs," scout troops, women's clubs. Last year 65,000 visitors toured the crafts and cooperative exhibits.

The workers at the exhibition are sponsored on the Washington trip by farming supply, processing, marketing, and rural electric cooperatives in their home areas.

In addition to the crafts, graphic displays tell Patio visitors the story of cooperatives. How much these associations have done to improve the quality of life for rural Americans is recounted through stories of the people who make cooperative progress so successful.

Cooperatives of all types, now serving one-third of the families in America, observe October as their special month. Governors in most States have issued proclamations and nationwide celebrations are scheduled throughout the month.

FHA Holds Major Meetings

Solutions to the credit problems of small rural communities and family farmers were discussed at two major program meetings held by the Farmers Home Administration in mid-September.

James V. Smith, FHA Administrator, presided over the two 2-day workshop sessions, held in Minneapolis and Oklahoma City.

Participants were key FHA personnel including the newly appointed State directors.

During the 12 months ending June 30, FHA advanced \$1.4 billion in loans and grants for farm ownership and operating expenses, construction of rural housing, and development of rural community facilities, including water and sewer systems.

MORE THAN 80 percent of the USDA staff buy U.S. Savings Bonds.



JAMES KILRAINE, Branchdale, Pa., displays his skill at decorating *pysanki* eggs at the Co-op Month Crafts Exhibition in Washington, D.C. Looking on is Marta Procinsky, Hyattsville, Md., wearing a costume from the Ukraine, where the art of *pysanki* eggs originated. The eggs are usually decorated for the season of Lent. Also on the table are Ukrainian ceramics made by Kilraine.

School Lunch Week Set For Oct. 12-18

Since 1946 when the National School Lunch Act was enacted, millions of school-age children have received nutritious lunches each day.

In recognition of the program's vital role, Congress, in 1962, designated the 7-day period beginning with the second Sunday in October each year as National School Lunch Week. This year it is October 12-18.

Through Federal-State-local cooperation, the National School Lunch Program has become the largest single food service industry in the Nation—more than a billion-dollar-a-year operation.

Last year the lunch program helped provide noon meals to about 19.9 million children in nearly 76,000 schools. Almost 3.4 billion meals were served. About 15 percent of these were free or greatly reduced in price for children whose parents could not afford the regular low price.

Although the school lunch program will be featured in special ceremonies and activities during National School Lunch Week, emphasis will also be placed on other child nutrition programs such as the School Breakfast Program, the Special Food Service Program for preschool youngsters, and the Special Milk Program. All these programs are administered by the Food and Nutrition Service.

This year more money and manpower than ever before are being put into the programs—with emphasis on reaching more children from low-income families. USDA has set a target of reaching 6.6 million needy children with free or reduced price lunches. This is the estimated number of children from low-income areas considered in need of better nutrition through school programs.

ACHIEVEMENTS

DR. ROBERT J. ANDERSON, associate administrator of the Agricultural Research Service, was recently named recipient of the American Veterinary Medical Association's first public service award. The award recognizes outstanding service or contributions to public health and regulatory veterinary medicine.

Anderson, a USDA veterinarian since 1935, was cited for his work in the successful campaign to eradicate foot-and-mouth disease in Mexico and to update international quarantine procedures against this and other animal diseases. He was instrumental in modernizing the national brucellosis, tuberculosis, scabies, and tick programs and has been responsible for advancing salmonella control programs and interagency review of pesticide usage.

As chairman of Secretary Hardin's com-



AFTER ADMINISTERING the oath of office to five members of the Advisory Board of the Commodity Credit Corporation, Secretary Hardin and other top USDA officials look over a Presidential Commission. Board members, whose appointments were announced by President Nixon in August, are from left: Robert D. Livingston, Sacramento, Calif.; Dr. Robert R. Spitzer, Burlington, Wis.; John Gammon, Marion, Ark.; Rufus Adams, Jackson, Ga.; and Milton L. Morrison, Salina, Kans. Livingston was re-appointed, having been first appointed in 1968. With Secretary Hardin are Undersecretary J. Phil Campbell and Assistant Secretary Clarence D. Palmby. CCC approves and finances price support and related activities. The Advisory Board meets at least every 90 days to study general policies of the Corporation.

Scientific Report: Moon Is Moon, That's All

Moon dust doesn't hurt earth plants. It may even help them.

Dr. Charles H. Walkinshaw, plant pathologist with the Southern Forest Experiment Station, New Orleans, La., reported this and other findings of the first comprehensive botanical tests available from the Apollo 11 mission.

Dr. Walkinshaw is the Forest Service leader of a team of scientists evaluating effects of lunar materials on more than 30 species of plants. The work is done at the quarantine facilities of the Lunar Receiving Laboratory of NASA's manned spacecraft center, Houston, Tex.

Four sets of each species of plants were used for the tests. The first set received no treatment. The second was treated with sterilized earth materials, the third with sterilized lunar rock, and the fourth with unsterilized lunar rock.

Some plants, tobacco for example, grew best and were greenest when sprinkled with unsterilized lunar rock powder. Uniformly, plants treated with

sterilized lunar rock did less well than those treated with unsterilized rock.

Dr. Walkinshaw said fern was especially interesting because its spores grew best on lunar material. Lettuce also grew vigorously in the presence of moon rock. The growth of algae and longleaf pine, however, was inhibited initially.

Seedlings of higher plants, such as tomato, bean, and wheat, survived well after treatment with lunar materials. In fact, some grew better and were healthier than untreated seedlings. Microbes were not detected in the pulverized moon rock used on the plants.

"Plants cannot grow in moon dust alone because it lacks sufficient nutrients. However, with the proper nutrients added, it would serve as a good medium," Dr. Walkinshaw reported. The moon soil has a high titanium content, is low in potassium and sodium, and appears to lack organic matter. "It is unlike anything else we knew about. Moon is moon, that's all."

mittee on hog cholera since its inception, Anderson has guided the program to where the disease should be eradicated by 1972.

LLOYD L. HARROLD, Soil and Water

Conservation Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, Coshocton, Ohio, was recently elected a Fellow in the American Society of Agricultural Engineers.

DRAMATIC RESCUE EARNS SCS MAN HERO MEDAL

Early one Sunday morning last April, the Soil Conservation Service technician from Kealahou, Hawaii, drove to remote Hookena Beach for a quiet day of spearfishing and swimming with his two daughters.

Instead, *Kwong Sin Paik* spent his "quiet day" in a battle with heavy surf to rescue two boys from drowning.

Paik and his daughters were just arriving at the beach when a runner appeared, shouting that three fishermen had been swept offshore by a large wave up the beach at Lae Mamo Point. No telephones were nearby so Paik sent his daughters for help while he and the runner drove to the Point, a volcanic bluff rising 20 feet above crashing breakers and half-submerged rocks. In recent years, nine persons have perished off the Point.

The final half-mile to the scenic but treacherous site is inaccessible by car and rugged lava beds make walking painfully difficult. When Paik could drive no nearer, he ran barefoot across these lava beds to reach the Point.

Bystanders had gathered onshore, but none had braved the big waves which had carried *Thomas Okuna*, his 9-year-old son *Neal*, and another man, *Lorenzo Pahec*, offshore. Near the big rocks, Paik could see the boy bobbing face down in the surf and presumed he was dead.

"Then," Paik related, "and this is the strange part—I thought I heard a sound. I don't know if I really heard it or not . . . but I suddenly decided that the boy might be alive."

Paik had brought along an auto innertube that he used for fishing. Accompanied by 16-year-old *Joseph Kanada*, he leaped into the surf to get the Okuna boy. They reached young Neal, placed him across the makeshift preserver, and moved him away from the dangerous rocks. Paik administered artificial respiration until the boy began coughing.

Paik left the two boys clinging to the innertube to search for the two men. By noon, it was apparent the boys could not last much longer, and as yet no boat had been launched to pick them up. So pushing the unconscious boy lying across the innertube and towing the exhausted Joseph, Paik began a torturous swim against strong outward currents. Two hours later, when a boat finally arrived, the trio had traveled almost a mile—nearly to Hookena Beach where the episode began.

Assured that both boys were safe, Paik swam back to the Point with three others to look for Neal's father. (Pahec had managed to scramble ashore unhurt.) Paik led the unsuccessful search for 4 hours until halted by dusk. Next day,

KWONG SIN PAIK, SCS technician from Kealahou, Hawaii, visits Lae Mamo Point, scene of a dramatic rescue which earned him the Carnegie Hero Medal.



scuba divers found the body in a lava cave that had been covered by Sunday's high tides.

On September 22, Paik received the Carnegie Hero Award—a bronze medal and \$750—for his actions. The Andrew Carnegie Hero Award, founded by the famed industrialist and philanthropist in 1904, honors persons who voluntarily risk their lives to an extraordinary degree in saving, or attempting to save, another person, or sacrifice themselves in a heroic manner for the benefit of others.

Among those praising Paik's actions was SCS Administrator *Kenneth E. Grant*, who wrote him: "I want to con-

gratulate you on your actions under extremely difficult circumstances in this rescue effort . . . It is certainly in the finest tradition that you willingly placed your own life in extreme jeopardy in bringing off the successful rescue of these two individuals."

An SCS supervisor said Paik, who is 47, was in excellent physical condition and was not bothered at all by the exertions of the rescue. "He came to work Monday morning, and said nothing of the previous day's adventure. It was not found out by his coworkers until the newspapers came out."

It was Paik's third successful rescue of drowning victims.

"TASTE IN" GIVES PROOF OF THE PUDDING

Potato-Cheese Bake, Chicken With Tomatoes, and Peanut Butter Quick Bread were acclaimed the most popular dishes at a recent "Taste In" for low-income homemakers in New York City. The dishes, as well as 15 other mouth-watering selections available for tasting, were all made from foods provided through USDA's Commodity Distribution Program.

The "Taste In" was planned by the health guides from Riverside Health Center in Manhattan.

The health guides, themselves homemakers in the community, are hired and trained by the New York City Health Department to provide a link between the community health services and problem households. Through home visits and group meetings, they give counseling on food, nutrition, consumer buying, health and health-related services, and other subjects related to daily life problems of the needy. Some 88 guides are assigned to health centers in 11 of the city's neediest districts.

With more than 350,000 people in New York City receiving food aid under the

Commodity Distribution Program, one of the guides' important tasks is helping low-income homemakers learn to use donated foods to the best advantage.

The "Taste In" was an outgrowth of cooking demonstrations given by the guides for individual homemakers and before groups at community schools and the health centers. The success of the "Taste In" has encouraged similar programs at other city health centers and around the country.

The health guides have also compiled an attractive booklet of recipes called "Tasty Dishes Using USDA Foods."

Meanwhile . . . Back At The Ranch

The University of Arizona Agricultural Extension Service recently released the results of an informal survey of 500 4-H youngsters that showed: Most do not live on farms anymore; none had ever driven a binder or hoed corn; only 13 of the group had pitched hay; and only two had plowed with horses.



KENNETH E. FRICK, seated, Administrator of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, discusses the 1969 ASC Community Committee elections with four of the six Negro farmers recently named by Secretary Hardin to serve as ASC State Committeemen. They are, from left: George W. Spears, Mound Bayou, Miss.; Claude C. Kennedy, Jr., Marianna, Ark.; Lawrence G. Davis, Decatur, Ala.; and Earl A. Roque, Natchez, La. Not shown are Marconi C. Smith, Sander-ville, Ga., and Reuben B. Jones, Circleville, Ohio.

DR. GEORGE W. IRVING, JR., Agricultural Research Service Administrator, presents the ARS Administrator's Safety Award to Mrs. Edna Atkinson, Safety Representative of the Consumer and Food Economics Research Division, as Dr. Faith Clark, looks on. Dr. Irving so honored 17 divisions primarily responsible for making 1968 a record year for safety for ARS employees. The awards were in conjunction with a 2-day seminar for safety representatives of all ARS divisions and major installations.



A Forest In A Nut Shell

Visitors to a National Forest in New Mexico receive an unusual welcome. They are greeted by a bilingual beaver.

The talented little fellow invites the visitors to tour the Beaver National Forest and tells them about the forest resources. He explains how the Forest Service administers the National Forests under Multiple Use Management and calls attention to the displays demonstrating these uses. He speaks both English and Spanish.

The chatty beaver is, of course, man-made, and so is the 1¼-acre Beaver National Forest, the smallest forest maintained by the Forest Service.

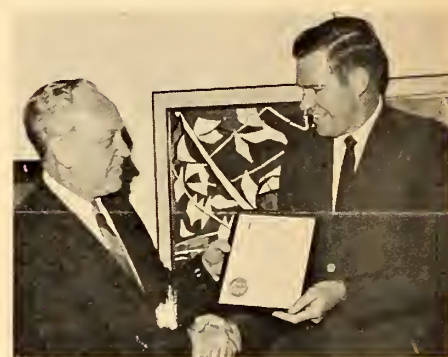
Displays at the tiny forest demonstrate graphically with living plants and models of people and animals, the use being made of National Forest resources. Visitors see two loggers cutting timber; a family camping and fishing along a live stream; cattle and sheep grazing. The most prominent feature is a fire tower manned by a model lookout.

Nearby an expertly designed exhibit operated by the Soil Conservation Service shows the effects of good and bad land management.

The forest, which is built to half-scale, and the SCS exhibit dominate the outdoor area of the Ghost Ranch Museum near Abiquiu, N. Mex. The museum, built in 1959 by the Charles Lathrop Pack Forestry Foundation, is a nonprofit, educational exposition of natural history and resource conservation in the Southwest. Exhibits include live animals and plants of the area and fossil specimens from nearby quarries.

A geological display features telescopes focused on different strata of the colorful cliffs which serve as the museum's backdrop.

The attraction has proved popular with northern New Mexico visitors. The talking beaver has welcomed more than a million people to his "National Forest in a nutshell."



ROY LENNARTSON, left, Consumer and Marketing Service Administrator, congratulates Eddie Kimbrell of the C&MS Livestock Division, Washington, D.C., on receiving a Career Education Award from the National Institute of Public Affairs. Kimbrell recently returned from a year's study in public administration and economics at Stanford University.

The U.S. produces 75 percent of the WORLD'S SUPPLY OF SOYBEANS.

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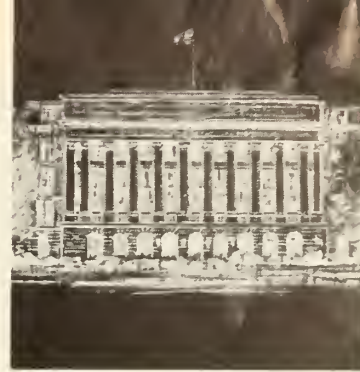
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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVIII NO. 22
OCTOBER 23, 1969

Farm-City Week Is November 21-28

President Nixon recently designated the week of November 21 through November 28, 1969, as National Farm-City Week.

In so doing, he urged all Americans to participate in the observance as a means of better understanding the significant interdependence of urban and rural America.

The President pointed out that as our society becomes more complex, it also grows more interdependent. For example, agriculture serves as a \$50 billion customer to our economy. The marketing and processing of food and fiber provide almost 5 million non-farm jobs and a \$25 billion annual payroll. At the same time, technological changes on the farm have so increased agricultural efficiency that record production has been achieved by fewer people. Many rural residents have therefore migrated to the cities. While some have become productive contributors to urban society, many others have been unable to find new economic roles.

President Nixon particularly urged the Department of Agriculture, the land-grant colleges and universities, the Cooperative Extension Service, and appropriate organizations to carry out programs to mark National Farm-City Week.

The programs should emphasize:

- The development of better understanding and effective working relationships between farm and non-farm residents;
- The scientific and technological advances in agriculture and their significance for the lives of both rural and urban dwellers;
- The need to plan more effectively how to use our land, conserve our natural resources, and protect the quality of our environment;
- The importance of maintaining and enhancing the social and economic health of farms and rural communities.
- The urgency of providing opportunities for disadvantaged people in both rural and urban areas to participate more fully in the economic life of the Nation.



THE FARM POND illustrates the multiple benefits offered by ACP practices. The pond provides water for livestock and wildlife; helps control erosion, stream siltation, and flooding; is used for fishing and boating; and adds beauty.

ACP For 1970 Offers Multiple Benefits

The Agricultural Conservation Program for 1970 will help protect the nation's agricultural resources and will contribute directly to improving the environment of all Americans—rural, suburban, and urban.

In announcing the 1970 ACP, Secretary Hardin emphasized public benefits as well as conservation assistance to farmers.

Major features of the 1970 ACP demonstrate this concern, according to officials of Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, the agency which administers the ACP. These features are:

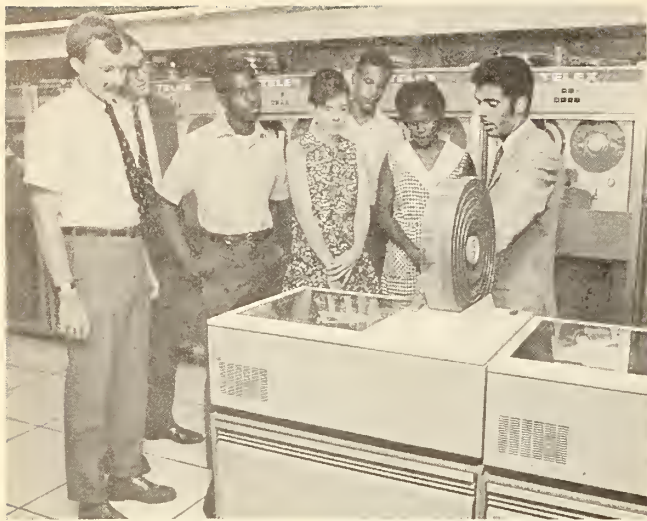
- Encouragement of enduring conservation practices.
 - Addition of basic authority for pollution control through conservation measures.
 - Maintenance of reserve funds by State ASC Committees for special projects with total-community benefits, for beautification-conservation, and for pollution control through conservation.
 - Provisions encouraging participation by low-income farmers.
- Under the ACP the Federal Govern-

ment encourages conservation by sharing with farmers and ranchers part of the cost of conservation measures on agricultural lands. Farmer requests for ACP cost-sharing are made to the county ASC committees.

A principal consideration in weighing requests is the conservation benefits which will accrue in the public interest. Farmers and ranchers may choose conservation practices such as installation or improvement of perennial grass lands, construction of farm ponds and grassed waterways, placement of trees and shrubs on eroding land, or stabilization of streambanks.

These and the many other approved ACP practices directly benefit the public. Ponds and reservoirs help prevent flooding and silting, provide wildlife habitat, often have public recreational benefits. Trees and shrubs which beautify the countryside, also keep both air and water cleaner by preventing wind and water erosion of the soil.

Three out of every 5 acres of COMMERCIAL FOREST LAND in the United States are owned by private citizens.



MICHAEL MASON (right), programmer at USDA's Data Processing Center, Washington, D.C., explains the functions of a computer disc storage device to a group of summer aids. Looking on are: (left to right) Mark Riddle, USDA Executive Intern; Bill Henry, aid co-ordinator for the Office of Management Services; and aids, Leroy DeEastern, Diane McCully, Carroll Warfield, and Mary White.

REA Loan Covers A "Power Desert"

A loan to make electricity available in the last great "power desert" in the continental United States, was recently approved by the Rural Electrification Administration. The location is a 12,800 square mile area of east central Nevada and west central Utah.

The \$15.1 million loan will enable a new rural electric cooperative, Mt. Wheeler Power, Inc., Baker, Nev., to bring initial central station electric service to 1,161 farms and ranches in the vast area.

"This is rural electrification at its best, bringing electric service to widely scattered farms, ranches and rural homes," Secretary Hardin said of the loan.

About 90 percent of the service area of the new electric cooperative is in four counties in east central Nevada; about 10 percent is in three counties in west central Utah. Consumer density in the new service area will average about one consumer to the mile of line. The average of all rural systems financed by REA is about 3.6 consumers to the mile of line.

Under the loan provisions, Mt. Wheeler Power will acquire facilities of the Ely Light and Power Co., Ely, Nev., which include 196 miles of distribution line serving 3,358 consumers and 10 miles of transmission line. These lines will be extended to provide service to 93 new rural consumers. More than 1,051 miles of distribution lines will be built to serve some 1,068 new consumers.

Upon completion of facilities, the Mt. Wheeler cooperative will be serving 4,519 consumers over 1,593 miles of line.



LA VELTON DANIEL works on a project at the ARS Stored-Product Insects Research and Development Laboratory, Savannah, Ga., where he was employed during the summer.

SCIENCE FAIR LEADS TO SUMMER JOB

La Velton Daniel of Avera, Ga., USDA's Special Merit Award recipient at the 20th International Science Fair, recently completed a pleasant and profitable summer. Daniel accepted summer employment with the Agricultural Research Service's Stored-Product Insects Research and Development Laboratory in Savannah, Ga.

Daniel became acquainted with the varied research projects conducted in stored-product entomology. His assignment in the biology section provided the opportunity to learn insect-rearing methods and techniques for sampling insect population. This training provided the background necessary to participate in several special research problems under the supervision of Drs. P. T. M. Lum and R. T. Arbogast.

An honor high school graduate with an exceptional musical talent and an avid interest in biology, Daniel has

USDA Summer Aids Held A Variety of Jobs

Clerk-typist, research horticulturist, library aide, accounting assistant, survey rodman—these were but a few of the jobs handled by high school and college-age students employed during the past summer at USDA.

The students, from ages 16 to 21, were participants in the Government-wide Summer Aid Program. Almost 3,000 young people worked in USDA offices, laboratories, and other sites across the Nation. Some 500 were located in the Washington, D.C., area.

Summer jobs at USDA introduces many young people to the world of work and awakens their interests in new fields. The jobs encourage them to continue their education, and provides them with some of the money needed to go to school in the fall or to follow goals they have set for themselves.

Haunting Statistics

Are small towns becoming ghost towns? No. In fact, many of them are growing faster than the national rate in terms of population, according to the Economic Research Service.

Nearly three-fourths of the nonmetropolitan communities with 2,500 to 25,000 people in 1950 racked up gains by 1960. Their overall rate of population growth was 21 percent, higher than the Nation's rate.

Towns with 2,500 to 5,000 residents grew by 18 percent on the average, equal to the national rate.

Only in towns with less than 500 residents were population losses more common than population gains. Roughly three-fifths of those places saw their numbers dwindle during 1950-60. Even so, they registered a small aggregate growth because the gainers gained more people than the losers lost.

Hungarians Study U.S. Farming

A seven-member delegation of Hungarian agricultural experts, led by Deputy Minister of Agriculture *Istvan Gergely*, recently spent a month in the United States to observe U.S. agricultural methods.

After meeting with Assistant Secretary *Clarence Palmby* and other Government officials, the Hungarian group visited eight States.

chosen to make science his vocation and music an avocation. He entered Hampton Institute in Hampton, Va., as a biology major.

White House Conference To Study Nutrition Needs

The White House Conference on Food, Nutrition, and Health, called by the President, will take a hard look at the nutritional needs of the American people. The Conference will take a special look at hunger and malnutrition among the poor.

More than 2,500 of the Nation's leading food and nutrition experts, as well as other Americans, will be invited to the Conference in Washington, D.C., Dec. 2-4. Educators, scientists, medical and health professionals, representatives of agriculture and the food industry, and spokesmen for consumer and social action groups will join Federal, State, and local government officials at the meeting.

In advance of the Conference, these experts have begun work as members of panels on food and nutrition studies. The panels will report their recommendations to the full Conference in December.

Students vs Experts

On Nov. 3, college students from around the Nation will match wits with experts from industry and Government. The meeting of the groups will differ greatly from some of the more recent campus confrontations. This event is the Collegiate Dairy Products Evaluation Contest in New Orleans, La.

The students, most of whom carry majors in dairy and food science fields, and the experts will judge samples of five dairy products—butter, Cheddar cheese, ice cream, cottage cheese, and milk. The students who come closest to matching the decisions of the experts are declared winners.

In addition to individual prizes, team awards are granted, usually in the form of fellowships to colleges represented by the winning teams.

The annual affair, first held in 1916, is sponsored by the American Dairy Science Association and the Dairy and Food Industries Supply Association. Its aim is to attract promising college students to careers in the dairy and food industries.

Contest rules provide for supervision by the Department of Agriculture. Currently, the contest superintendent is *Harold E. Meister*, Deputy Director of the Dairy Division, Consumer and Marketing Service.

USDA has recognized the value of the contest as a means of improving the quality of dairy products and of maintaining a close liaison with agricultural colleges.



FOUR PARTICIPANTS in the home improvement workshop held in Washington, D.C., construct a smokeless mud stove. While this is a crude piece of equipment by most standards, in many developing countries, the stove is indeed a home improvement.

HOW TO MAKE HOME IMPROVEMENTS

How would you like a refrigerator with an inside temperature only 10 degrees cooler than the temperature in your house?

The average American housewife would say "no thanks". But to homemakers in many developing countries, who have no refrigeration—and probably no electricity—such a device would be a marvelous thing.

It's really quite simple to make one—you construct a frame from scrap lumber, put in a couple of shelves, and cover the whole thing with burlap, leaving the ends of the cloth long enough to dangle into pans of water. The burlap, acting as a wick, soon becomes wet all over. Evaporation causes the interior temperature of the "refrigerator" to drop several degrees.

On the grounds of the National 4-H Center in Washington, D.C., 17 women from 12 countries recently spent 3 weeks learning to make this and many other home improvement items.

The course was planned and conducted by the Federal Extension Service in cooperation with the Foreign Agricultural Service. It was financed by five other Government agencies and private organizations who sponsored the participants.

Most of the women were in this country to study home economics and related fields at U.S. colleges and universities. Their experiences in Washington were designed to help them adapt this academic information to conditions in their home countries, where each is employed in a position related to programs for improving family living.

In most of the countries, women of their class are not accustomed to working with their hands in this way. But in their enthusiasm to learn, this was a forgotten matter.

Their unfamiliarity with tools was apparent. *Mrs. Jessie Taylor*, the instructor, rushed to the aid of one participant

who was busily sawing a board with a hacksaw. But most had listened carefully to classroom instruction and proceeded, if not skillfully, at least with the proper tools.

Mrs. Taylor understood the women's problems well. After working as a county Extension home agent in Arkansas for 18 years, she was a home economics adviser with the Agency for International Development in Nepal, Pakistan, and Nigeria for 10 years.

A participant from India, with the help of a woman from The Netherlands, had a struggle but finally succeeded in splitting a large sheet of asbestos for the oven they were building. The large wooden box, lined with the asbestos for heat retention and then with sheet metal for reflection, was designed for use with any kind of traditional heat source, such as charcoal or kerosene.

Two other participants constructed a dishwashing table—a wooden frame fitted with closely spaced dowels on which to place the dishes for draining. The builders observed that in their country, bamboo would take the place of the wooden dowels.

After classroom training in giving demonstrations and in making and using visual aids, each woman prepared and presented a demonstration appropriate to the needs of her country.

Mrs. Sarojani K. Dastur of India, for example, demonstrated the use of a high-protein multipurpose food (MPF) developed by Indian researchers as a diet supplement.

Not all of the problems of their countries can be solved by 17 women; but the training course helped them adapt their U.S. college coursework to the situation back home. They will be doing their best to bring their countries higher standards of health, nutrition, and home management.

IF YOU MUST TALK USE A SLIDE SET

People who want to plan a new kitchen, bathroom, or family workroom, buy a house, or have other interests in house construction will be interested in knowing about a series of color slide sets and filmstrips the Department of Agriculture has available.

The presentations, which were produced by the Federal Extension Service, can be bought as a group or singly, and each comes with two copies of a narrative guide.

The slide sets can be purchased from Photography Division, Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, for \$8 each. Order filmstrips from Photo Lab, Inc., 3825 Georgia Avenue NW., Washington, D.C. 20011. The exception to these prices is "HEATING AND COOLING YOUR HOME," which costs \$9 as a slide set and \$6.50 as a filmstrip.

Here's what the shows are about:

HOME KITCHENS, 47 frames, tells how kitchens can be planned for attractiveness, efficiency, and satisfaction.

PLANNING THE FAMILY WORKROOM, 43 frames, gives the results of tests made with different homemakers and puts the information to work as a challenge to the home which has several living areas but little working space for ironing, sewing, and other housework.



USDA SLIDE SETS and Filmstrips tell how to make a house a home.

FOUNDATIONS FOR YOUR HOME, 33 frames, is intended to familiarize prospective homeowners and builders with the importance of adequate foundations in light house construction.

WINDSTORM RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION FOR YOUR HOME, 45 frames, shows how damage from high winds of cyclones, hurricanes, or tornadoes can be minimized by improved construction methods.

INTERIOR BUILDING MATERIALS FOR YOUR HOME, 42 frames, discusses a wide variety of materials along with some features of installation, design, and cost that will interest homeowners and builders.

WIRING FOR YOUR HOME, 42 frames, acquaints present and future homemakers with a fundamental knowledge of electricity as it pertains to normal household use, stressing adequate wiring, fusing, and circuits.

A GOOD HOUSE FOR ALL WHO CARE, 49 frames, stresses three major considerations in housing: The family's physical housing needs, economic factors, and esthetics of housing.

HEATING AND COOLING YOUR HOME, 52 frames, familiarizes prospective homeowners and builders with types of heating and cooling systems available and some advantages and disadvantages of each.

EXTERIOR BUILDING MATERIALS FOR YOUR HOME, 43 frames, helps you choose the right siding for your home to give it protection, charm, and other qualities, according to your neighborhood and pocketbook.

A GOOD BATHROOM FOR YOUR HOME, 46 frames, gives good ideas about planning bathrooms, including layouts, design, and equipment.

Sourdough Horizons Expand

The long wait may be nearly over for lovers of sourdough French bread. Biologist *L. Kline* and microbiologist *T. F. Sugihara*, both with the Agricultural Research Service's Western utilization research laboratory, Albany, Calif., are "zeroing in" on just what it is that gives the bread its unique character.

Countless attempts have been made to bake the popular bread in parts of the world other than in the San Francisco Bay area. But for more than 100 years, this location has been the only place the "real McCoy" was made. In fact, the bread is so popular with San Francisco visitors, many rate it ahead of the Golden Gate Bridge as a tourist attraction.

According to the researchers, it is more than how the San Francisco bakers handle the dough that makes sour-

dough unique. Two types of microorganisms appear to be responsible for sourdough—and they both hold surprises for microbiologists.

Yeast ordinarily used to cause breads to rise cannot tolerate acetic acid. Sourdough bread is highly acidic, however, and at least half of the acid is acetic acid. But sourdough yeasts live under these conditions.

Even more unusual than the yeast are the acid-producing bacteria. They appear to have a combination of special nutritional and environmental requirements for growth and do not seem to fit into any known taxonomic group.

If ARS research is successful, the tasty sourdough French bread could become available anywhere bakers want to produce it. And the Golden Gate Bridge can reclaim its preeminence.

CO-OP MONTH
OCTOBER 1969



PROGRESS THROUGH PEOPLE

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 23, 1969 Vol. XXVIII No. 22

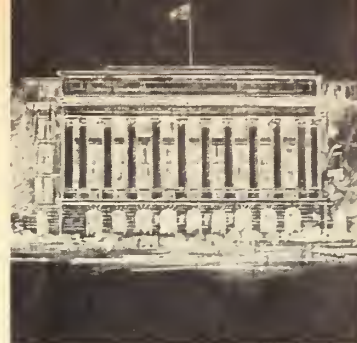
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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL XXVIII NO. 23
NOVEMBER 6, 1969

Civil Rights Training Program Initiated

Secretary Hardin recently assembled USDA agency administrators and their deputies to initiate his civil rights training program. It was the first time in memory that agency heads and their deputies met together for an entire day to focus on one topic.

The Secretary outlined his civil rights policy during this first in a series of civil rights training sessions to be held throughout the Department. Those assembled participated in a question-and-answer period and heard talks by Howard University Professor Emeritus *Rayford W. Logan* on "Discrimination—Causes and Effect," and by *Clement E. Vontress* of George Washington University on "Understanding and Communicating with Minority Groups."

Several USDA officials, Dr. Logan, Dr. Vontress, *C. E. Bishop* of the University of North Carolina, and *E. W. Owens* of the University of Minnesota were panel members for a discussion on "Action Programs in Civil Rights for USDA." Assistant Secretary for Administration *Joseph M. Robertson* summarized the day's program.

New Pesticide Research Tool

At the Forest Service Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, Berkeley, Calif., research entomologist *Dick Roberts* and biologist *Marion Page* have developed a 3-D picture technique to aid in insecticide research.

Their technique, combining a laser and a camera system, is part of a project to develop new, non-persistent insecticides and safer methods of application. Using laser holography the researchers can measure tiny spray drops as they fall, size them in a 3-dimensional manner, and study their rate of descent, impingement on the insect, and eventual evaporation.

"The technique has opened up a whole new world to us; we can now watch activities we could only guess at before," Robert says.

He added that this information also is vital in designing selective insecticides that are toxic to one insect and not to others or to the ecology in general.

SECRETARY HARDIN (standing) opens his civil rights training program for USDA agency administrators and their deputies and points out that President Nixon's equal opportunity policy will be carried out in all USDA programs and activities.



SOS/70: An International Signature

More than 3,000 food scientists and technologists from 50 countries will meet in Washington, D.C., during August 1970 to tackle the problem of making new and better foods available now and for generations ahead.

These experts attending the Third International Congress of Food Science and Technology will seek to speed efforts to solve world food needs by creating nutritious and acceptable additions to the traditional families of foodstuffs.

"Science of Survival" is the theme of the Congress, which has adopted "SOS/70" as the "signature" of the meeting.

The Congress is co-sponsored by the Department of Agriculture, the International Committee of Food Science and Technology, and the Institute of Food Technologists, the host organization for the conference. It is supported by contributions from American industry, foundations, and interested Government agencies.

In announcing the conference, Secretary Hardin said, "Much of the additional food supply required to solve our needs for the future must come from the innovative effort of those in the relatively new field of food science and technology."

He added that it is a hopeful sign that men and women who have developed this new field of applied science are seeking to unify the efforts of government, industry, and the academic area, and to involve those from lesser

developed nations who can make important contributions to the expansion of food resources.

The international conference will complement a scheduled White House Conference on Food, Nutrition, and Health planned in December. The White House Conference will be concerned with immediate domestic food needs and Government policies. The International Congress will be concerned with worldwide research and development in food and nutrition.

Previous meetings of the world science groups were held in London in 1962 and in Warsaw in 1966.

ARS Dedicates New Research Laboratory

Dr. George W. Irving, Jr., Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service, recently participated in the dedication of a new ARS Poultry Research Laboratory at Georgetown, Del.

The \$500,000 facility will be used to conduct research cooperatively between ARS and the Delaware Agricultural Experiment Station. Research will center on poultry and poultry products, with special attention given to factors affecting poultry meat and eggshell quality.

The facility, authorized by Congress in 1966, consists of an office-laboratory and two poultry houses. When fully staffed, there will be five ARS scientists and supporting personnel.



TRAINEES AT THE WORLD CENSUS TRAINING CENTER work on a problem under the supervision of Floyd O'Quinn, Ed Lippert, and Emerson Brooks (left to right, standing). The trainees represent eight world regions. They are: (left to right, seated) Jan Stelmach, Poland; Eric Straughn, West Indies; Mansour Duhbidan, Saudi Arabia; Hyeong Ho Park, Korea; Mrs. Layra Aslanian, Brazil; Abdus Hanafee, Pakistan; Miss Gülden Güder, Turkey; and L. C. Chibwe, Zambia.

"The National Arboretum" Is A Prizewinner

USDA's Motion Picture Service recently received an award for a motion picture of a beautiful garden in the heart of Washington, D.C.

In nationwide competition, "The National Arboretum"—both the title of the movie and the name of the garden—won a Chris Certificate Award at the 17th Annual Columbus Film Festival, Columbus, Ohio.

The film was produced by the Motion Picture Service for the Agricultural Research Service, which administers the National Arboretum.

The color film compresses the four seasons into a 13-minute tour of the 400-acre Arboretum where, in natural settings, trees, shrubs, and flowers collected from around the world grow alongside hybrids produced by ARS scientists.

Scenes in the film include hillsides covered with more than 70,000 azaleas, all in bloom; the prized Gotelli collection of low-growing evergreens; and Fern Valley wearing colors of the four seasons.

In other scenes viewers look into the heart of a flower and watch a scientist create a new ornamental.

One sequence, filmed in the Far East, shows a USDA scientist collecting plants for developing new ornamentals.

Copies of the 16mm. film may be purchased from the Motion Picture Service, Office of Information, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250. The cost is \$67. Prints may also be obtained on loan from State film libraries.



A FLOWERING CRABAPPLE TREE, one of the thousands of blossoming plants at the National Arboretum, attracts a visitor in a scene from the prizewinning film entitled—naturally—"The National Arboretum."

Health Benefits Open Season Scheduled For November

Remember—open season for the Federal Health Benefits Program has been scheduled for November 10-28, 1969.

During this period eligible employees who are not enrolled in a health benefits plan will be permitted to enroll. Employees and annuitants who are already enrolled may change to another plan or option.

Detailed information on the open season is being sent to all eligible employees and annuitants. If this material is not received by employees by November 10, they should contact their administrative officer.

Annuitants who do not receive the materials by November 15, should contact the Bureau of Retirement, Civil Service Commission, Washington, D.C. 20451

USDA HELPS TRAIN WORLD CENSUS LEADERS

At a special Training Center located at USDA in Washington, D.C., 34 agricultural economists and statisticians from 24 countries recently began a year-long study program in preparation for an enormous task—the upcoming World Agricultural Census.

Sponsored by the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization, the Census will compile data from farm surveys conducted by more than 100 nations. The data from these surveys, such as the U.S. Census of Agriculture scheduled for January 1970, is vitally needed for the fight against hunger.

When the experts studying at USDA complete their training and return home next year, they will set up training programs and help conduct census surveys in their own countries.

The Training Center, a joint effort of USDA, the Census Bureau, and the Agency for International Development, is directed by Floyd O'Quinn of the Census Bureau. He is assisted by Ed Lippert of USDA's Statistical Reporting Service. Emerson Brooks, also of SRS, serves as USDA liaison with the Center.

The current group of trainees bring the number of participants in the training program to 135 people from 56 countries.

Training at the Center is challenging: All courses are on the graduate level.

For the first 9 months, participants take 17 courses in census methods, statistics and economics, and data processing. Instructors are from SRS, the Census Bureau, other Federal agencies, and area universities.

When the courses are over in May, participants spend 6 weeks studying plans for a census in the mythical nation of Agrostan. Complete with its own geography, agriculture, and population, Agrostan is designed to present the census planners with many of the conditions they will encounter in their home countries. USDA specialists head panel discussion for this workshop.

The last month of the program is spent in the field. Participants visit a farm community to conduct a practice farm census which they design themselves. Local USDA offices and Land Grant colleges lend a hand. Last year's site was Berks County, Pa.

HAILSTORMS cause an average of \$284 million in crop damage annually in this country, according to the Economic Research Service. Hardest hit regions in terms of dollar losses are the Northern Plains and Corn Belt with large acreages of wheat, corn and soybeans. States suffering greatest dollar drain from hail are North Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, and Minnesota.

NAL Moves Into New Building

The National Agricultural Library recently completed the move into its new building on the grounds of the Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md. The Library was formerly located in the USDA office building at 14th and Independence Ave., Washington, D.C.

A 15-story tower of pre-cast concrete and rock-faced brick, houses the NAL's collection of 1.3 million volumes on agriculture and supporting sciences—botany, chemistry, animal industry, veterinary medicine, biology, agricultural engineering, rural sociology, forestry, entomology, law, food and nutrition, soils and fertilizers as well as marketing, transportation and other economic aspects of agriculture.

Bookstacks are located in the tower building from the fifth through the thirteenth floor. A vertical book conveyor permits rapid delivery of books from the shelf to the scientist.

An adjoining two-story wing provides space for technical personnel to develop scientific management of literature resources and to expand specialized services to research people.

Free interlibrary loan service is provided to any library in the United States and photoduplication services make available at cost any material in the collection. A teletypewriter with answer-back code has been installed to improve services to out-of-town patrons.

SCSA Elects USDA'ers

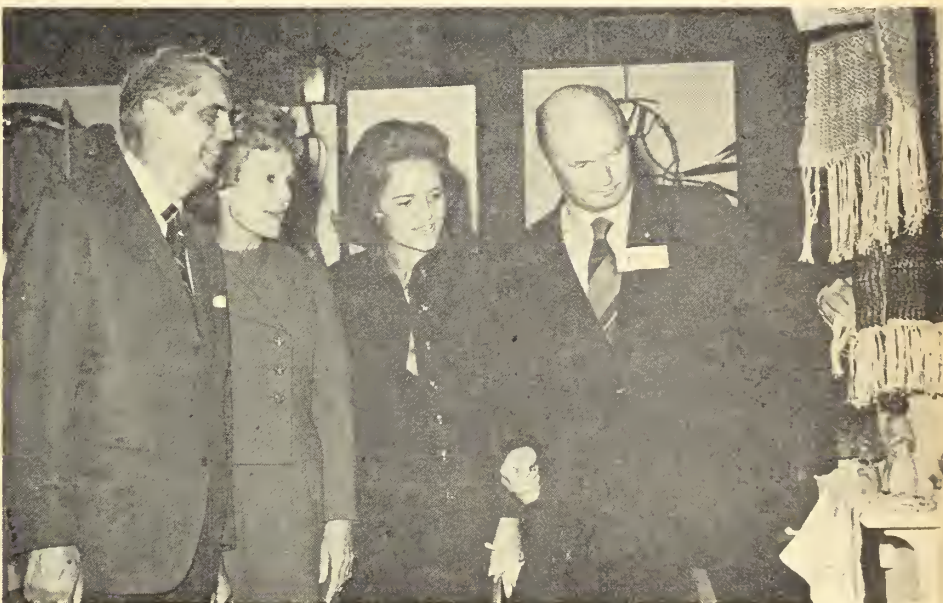
Three USDA employees were named officers in the Soil Conservation Society of America at the Society's recent annual meeting in Ft. Collins, Colo.

Robert W. Eikleberry, Lincoln, Nebr., soil cooperator for the Midwest for the Soil Conservation Service, was named president of the 13,000-member Society.

J. R. Johnston was elected as vice president and *Einer L. Roget* was elected president-elect, a preparatory position to the 1971 presidency. Johnston is chief of the Agricultural Research Service's Southwest Great Plains Research Station, Bushland, Tex. Roget is Arkansas SCS State Conservationist.

In addition, several USDA employees were named Fellows of the Soil Conservation Society of America, the highest award the SCSA confers on its members. These include: *Kenneth E. Grant*, Washington, D.C., SCS Administrator; *Chester E. Evans*, Ft. Collins, Colo., chief of the ARS Northern Plains Branch, Soil and Water Research Division; *Cecil H. Wadleigh*, Beltsville, Md., director of ARS

A TOWER OF BOOKS, the new home of the National Agricultural Library, is reflected in a pool on the grounds of the Agricultural Research Service, Beltsville, Md. The NAL, the largest agricultural library in the world, houses 1.3 million volumes and offers a variety of services to support the diversified interests of USDA employees and the agricultural-biological community.



MRS. RICHARD M. NIXON joins Secretary and Mrs. Hardin and Congressman Roger H. Zion of Indiana in admiring Indian handcrafts on display at the October Co-op Month Crafts Exhibit held in the Patio of the USDA Administration Building, Washington, D.C. The First Lady, who was guest of honor at opening ceremonies for the month-long exhibit, toured the displays and watched craftsmen demonstrate their skills. A quilt, especially designed and made by three sisters from eastern Kentucky, was presented to Mrs. Nixon. Thousands of people visited the exhibit which featured craftsmen and crafts from 32 States.

Soil and Water Conservation Research Division; *Douglas Craig*, Atlanta, Ga., director of the Southeastern area of State and Private Forestry, Forest Service; *Leslie B. Sachow*, Fargo, N.D., ACP specialist with the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service; *William W. Russell*, Wisconsin SCS State Con-

servationist; *Lyall H. Mitchell*, Fairfield, Iowa, retired SCS area conservationist; *Avard B. Linford*, Montana SCS State Conservationist; *Edward R. Keil*, Maryland SCS State Conservationist; *Harold W. Cooper*, Wyoming SCS State Conservationist; and *J. R. Johnston*, SCSA vice president-elect.

Moon Rock Is No Insecticide

Earthly insects apparently suffer no ill effects from eating moon dust—not even indigestion.

This opinion is based on the results of preliminary tests conducted by Agricultural Research Service scientists at the Lunar Receiving Laboratory, Houston, Tex., and at ARS laboratories, Beltsville, Md. The scientists, entomologist *Clarence A. Benschoter* and insect pathologist *Dr. Arthur M. Heimpel*, examined colonies of cockroaches, house flies, and greater wax moths that were fed portions of lunar rock brought back to earth by the Apollo 11 astronauts.

The scientists found no evidence of adverse effects on the insects' behavior, appearance, internal organs, or cellular tissue. Neither were there any indications of infection by biological organisms that might have been found on the moon.

Tests are continuing with colonies of insects to confirm the preliminary results. Similar tests are planned for lunar samples obtained from other parts of the moon in future space explorations.



BERNICE McGEARY (second from right), nutritionist with the Agricultural Research Service, Beltsville, Md., demonstrates how recipes using foods distributed through the Consumer and Marketing Service's Commodity Foods Program are tested. Her audience is four Japanese food editors and their interpreter. The editors, who represent newspapers with a combined readership of 12 million, recently visited USDA offices and facilities in Washington, D.C., and other areas during a 3-week tour of the U.S. The trip was sponsored by food industry associations in cooperation with the Foreign Agricultural Service.

ACHIEVEMENTS

DR. HELEN SAVITSKY, ARS Crops Research Division, Salinas, Calif., recently received a special award of merit from the sugar industry and the sugarbeet growers of The Netherlands.

The award recognized contributions to sugarbeet production made by Dr. Savitsky and her late husband, Dr. V. F. Savitsky.

A. W. COOPER, Director of the ARS National Tillage Machinery Laboratory, Auburn, Ala., recently was awarded the 1969 John Deere Gold Medal by the American Society of Agricultural Engineers for his contributions in the application of science and art to the soil.

The ASAE also elected J. M. LEVEN, East Lansing, Mich., and E. BUFORD WILLIAMSON, Stoneville, Miss., both members of ARS' Agricultural Engineering Research Division, as ASAE Fellows.

DR. CLAIR E. TERRILL, Animal Husbandry Research Division of ARS, Beltsville, Md., was recently elected an Honorary Fellow of the American Society of Animal Science. Dr. Terrill is chief of the Sheep and Fur Animal Research Branch, a position he has held since 1955.

Recently two ARS scientists were honored by the Poultry Science Association.

DR. HENRY L. MARKS, research gene-

ticist and coordinator of the Southern Regional Poultry Breeding Project at Athens, Ga., received the Association's Research Award. This \$500 award is given to a member of the Association who, in the preceding year, has published outstanding research papers. The recipient must be less than 40 years of age.

PAUL A. ZUMBRO, assistant chief of the Poultry Research Branch, Animal Husbandry Research Division, was elected a Fellow of the Poultry Science Association. Zumbro, who has been with USDA since 1935, was cited for his "tremendous influence in upgrading and improving the quality of chicks and poults produced in the United States . . ."

L. J. KUSHMAN, Raleigh, N.C., leader of ARS Root Crop and Small Fruit Investigations, recently received the National Canners Association Award in Raw Products Research. The award was presented at the American Society for Horticulture Science meeting in Pullman, Wash.

J. W. DICKENS, ARS Market Quality Research Division leader, Virginia-Carolina Field Crops Quality Investigations, Raleigh, N.C., has been recently elected president-elect of the American Peanut Research and Education Association.

CHARLES HOLADAY, ARS Market Quality Research Division leader, Peanut Quality Investigations, Dawson, Ga., was appointed chairman of the Association's Quality Committee.

DR. HERBERT J. DUTTON, ARS Northern Utilization Laboratory, Peoria, Ill., was named recipient of the 1969 American Oil Chemists Society Award in Lipid Chemistry. The award, which carries a \$2,500 honorarium, was presented for outstanding achievements. Dr. Dutton is in charge of investigations on chemical and physical properties of oilseeds at the Peoria laboratory.

An official of the Consumer and Marketing Service, DR. H. M. STEINMETZ, has been elected vice-president of the World Association of Veterinary Food-Hygenics.

His election for a 4-year term came at the Association's 5th International Symposium in Opatija, Yugoslavia, in September. More than 360 participants from 36 countries attended the symposium to exchange information and results of research on hygiene of meat, poultry, and dairy products.

Dr. Steinmetz, who is Assistant Deputy Administrator for Consumer Protection, C&MS, also became a member of the seven-man executive board with representatives of Germany, Denmark, The Netherlands, Switzerland, and New Zealand.

DR. D. E. ZINTER, veterinary parasitologist with C&MS, spoke at the symposium. DR. CLARENCE H. PALS, now retired from his post of meat inspection director with C&MS, was the U.S. delegate to the meeting.

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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVIII NO. 25
DECEMBER 4, 1969

Major Changes Made In Retirement System

Recently enacted amendments to the Civil Service Retirement Law make some significant changes in the Federal retirement system. Among other things, the amendments, signed by President Nixon on Oct. 20, 1969, improve the financing of the retirement system and liberalize eligibility for and amount of benefits.

Major changes include:

1. Employee and agency retirement contributions will increase from 6½ to 7 percent of the basic pay for each employee under the retirement system. For USDA employees, this increase begins the pay period starting Jan. 11, 1970.
2. Retirement annuities will be computed on the basis of the "high-3" average salary rather than the "high-5" average salary.
3. Sick leave accumulated at the time of retirement will be used in computing the annuity. However, the days of unused sick leave thus added are used only in counting the number of years and months of service for annuity computations; they cannot be credited for retirement eligibility or for computing the employee's high-3 average salary.
4. If an employee dies after at least 18 months of creditable civilian service, the widow, dependent widower, and/or children are now entitled to survivor annuity. Formerly, the minimum service requirement was 5 years. All other eligibility requirements remain the same. The amendments also provide for increases in survivor annuities in the various categories.
5. Formerly, the survivor annuity of a widow terminated upon remarriage. The new law permits continuance of the annuity, regardless of when the employee retired or died, if the widow remarries after attaining age 60 and the remarriage occurred on or after July 18, 1966.



A HIGHLIGHT OF 4-H WEEK (Oct. 5-11) for a group of 1969 4-H Reporters-to-the-Nation was presenting Secretary Hardin with a copy of "The President's Book," a pictorial report of 4-H aims and achievements. The Secretary accompanied the 4-H'ers to the White House where a specially engraved volume of the Report was presented to Mrs. Richard M. Nixon for the President on behalf of the 3½ million 4-H'ers in 50 States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and the District of Columbia. During National 4-H Congress in Chicago, Nov. 3-Dec. 4, a new "crop" of Reporters-to-the-Nation will be chosen from among the 1,650 Congress delegates. The young men and women, up to 12 in number, will serve in 1970 to report on 4-H and explain new trends and developments to national organizations and to the public. Like those pictured here, they will represent a variety of educational experiences in 4-H work, background, and geographic locations.

Where such a remarriage has already occurred and the annuity has been terminated, it will be resumed commencing Oct. 20, 1969.

6. Cost-of-living increases in annuities are still figured as before—the percentage of increase is equivalent to the percentage rise in the cost of living as determined by the Consumer Price Index. However, the 1969 amendments add 1 percent to whatever percentage of increase is developed in the future by the CPI. For example, if a 3 percent increase is developed by the CPI, annuities would increase 4 percent.

THE NATION'S farm labor force estimated at 5,150,000 during October. That's down 3% from a year ago. Farm operators and family workers totaled 3,825,000, down 3%; hired workers, 1,325,000, down 4% from a year ago.

PLANT PEST CONTROL BY ANOTHER NAME

Organizational changes in plant pest control programs were announced by Dr. George W. Irving, Jr., Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service.

All ARS plant pest control operations will be conducted by the Plant Protection Division, formerly the Plant Pest Control Division. Donald R. Shepherd continues as director of the newly named Division.

Dr. Irving says this reorganization will permit more efficient use of Division personnel and more effective coordination of work aimed at safeguarding environmental quality.

The new name, he says, more properly describes the Division's overall responsibilities. It emphasizes the positive aspects of protecting American agriculture from plant pests rather than controlling and eradicating these pests after infestation and destruction have occurred.

CRITERIA ADOPTED FOR NATIONAL TRAILS

Criteria to establish trails under the National Trails System were announced recently by Secretary Hardin and Secretary of the Interior Walter J. Hickel.

Basic procedures for setting up these trails were spelled out in Public Law 90-543, approved Oct. 1968. In that Act, Congress designated the Appalachian Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail as the first components of the new National Trails System.

The Pacific Crest Trail is administered by the Forest Service and the Appalachian Trail by the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior. Fourteen other trail routes were designated by Congress for study and possible future inclusion in the system.

The nationwide system will consist of two general trail classifications: National Scenic Trails and National Recreation Trails.

National Scenic Trails, usually several hundred miles in length, are established by Congress. National Recreation Trails may be established by the Secretary of the Interior where lands administered by him are involved or by the Secretary of Agriculture with the consent of the Federal agency, State, or political subdivisions having jurisdiction over these lands. Trails within park, forest, and other recreation areas administered by either Department may also be established by the appropriate Secretary.

Criteria adopted by Interior and Agriculture call for National Scenic Trails to have superior scenic, historical, natural or cultural qualities with maximum outdoor recreation potential. The guidelines specify that these trails, as far as practicable, should avoid highways, transmission lines, fences and other commercial or industrial developments; provide adequate public access; and follow principal historic routes.

National Recreation Trails should provide a variety of outdoor recreation uses to serve an urban area. The length of a trail may be short—perhaps a half mile—or long enough to have urban-rural characteristics, but it must be continuous and available to large numbers of people. These trails may be designed solely for hikers, horsemen, or bicyclists, but, where practicable, should serve multiple uses.

The criteria for national scenic and recreation trails were developed by an interagency task force of USDA and Interior officials. Members included *Richard F. Droege*, Associate Deputy Chief, Forest Service, and *Webb Kennedy*, Assistant Director of Division of Engineering, Forest Service.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL

October 14, 1969

TO EACH EMPLOYEE:

A Department of Agriculture employee died today. In an accident. A job-related accident.

How did it happen? It doesn't matter ... the details. The accident could have been prevented. What now? A report studied ... and filed. A name into a computer... a life lost. And that's that. What a shame.

It takes work to stop accidents. Your work and my work. Think and act to prevent accidents ... to promote safety. It may take a second, but it's worth it.

Carl B. Barnes

CARL B. BARNES
Director of Personnel

Unions Help Train Youths At FS Centers

A 50-week training program conducted by the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators, and Paperhangers, AFL-CIO, was recently opened to qualified Job Corpsmen at the Forest Service's Civilian Conservation Centers near Cottonwood, Idaho, Curlew, Wash., and Trapper Creek, Mont.

With the addition of these three sites, the union now conducts classes at 14 centers with average class enrollment of 12 to 15 youths.

For the past several years, the Forest Service has made arrangements with unions to offer training courses in a continuing effort to involve the private sector in assisting disadvantaged youth.

The Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators, and Paperhangers is the third national union to provide such training services at Job Corps Centers administered by the Forest Service.

At two centers the International Union of Operating Engineers conducts classes for a total of 80 Corpsmen. At six centers 270 Corpsmen are enrolled in courses conducted by the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners.

The Forest Service has responsibility for 20 Job Corps Centers across the Nation.



THOMAS P. QUIGLEY (left), reports management officer with the Agricultural Research Service, Washington, D.C., receives the Federal Paperwork Management Award from Harold A. Moulds, International President of the Association of Records Executives and Administrators. Quigley was one of six Federal employees to receive top honors from the Association, marking the fifth straight year a USDA employee has won this award. Quigley was honored for his work with ARS' Reports Management Program which has achieved savings of more than 88,000 man-hours valued at more than \$395,000 since its inception by Quigley. The program has significantly reduced the time gap between laboratory development and practical application of Federal research.

DECEMBER PLENTIFUL FOODS—
Broiler-fryers, fresh pears, apples, potatoes, sweetpotatoes, canned peaches, canned pears, canned tomatoes and tomato products, dry beans, split peas, and lentils.

C&MS Employee Is Host With The Most

Sheldon S. (Bud) Reese believes in going an extra mile to fulfill his duties.

Reese who is Officer in Charge of the livestock market news office for the Consumer and Marketing Service in Sioux City, Iowa, was recently asked by his Washington, D.C., office to arrange for 2 or 3 days of demonstrations and training in market news for six Brazilian marketing officials. The six were in the United States for a 2-month study of agricultural marketing.

Reese arranged for the men, most of whom could speak little or no English, to stay in local homes for a better opportunity to get acquainted with the domestic and social side of Americans.

Host families met the men at the airport, took them to their homes, arranged for them to reach a common meeting place each morning, came for them in the afternoon, and took them to the airport at the end of their stay in Sioux City.

The Brazilians were made honorary citizens of Sioux City by a delegation from the Mayor's office and were treated to an American-style barbecue dinner and a high school football game.

The objective of their training on the Sioux City market was equally as well arranged. On the first day, half of the Brazilians accompanied buyers; the other half went with sellers or commission men. On the second day, the routine was reversed. The function and services of all agencies on the market were thoroughly explained and demonstrated including trips to packing houses and a television studio to see a market news information telecast.

While the project was considerable work for Reese and his associates, *Lance Hooks*, C&MS technical leader of the Brazilian group, reported the visit was a complete success. The Brazilians enjoyed every minute of it.

SCS GOES TO TOWN

Detroit, Mich., the Nation's fifth largest city, is now part of a soil conservation district.

A working agreement recently signed with the newly formed Wayne Soil Conservation District authorizes technical and financial aid for the district from USDA, State, and local sources.

Wayne County, whose boundaries coincide with the new district, is one of the Nation's fastest growing areas. About 1,000 farms still operate in the area. But rapid urban growth has created complex erosion and flooding problems; a decrease in land used for agriculture; and an increase in idle land held for development.

ARNOLD H. BEAN, retired SCS employee, and his wife watched the moon trip of their astronaut son, Alan Bean, on three television sets in the living room of their Fort Worth home.



SCS RETIREE IS PROUD OF ASTRONAUT SON

When Astronaut Alan Bean and Company blasted off for the moon on November 14, two people in Fort Worth, Tex., were watching on three color television sets. They were Alan's parents, Arnold H. Bean, a retired Soil Conservation Service employee, and his wife, Frances.

And from take-off to splashdown, a host of Arnold's former SCS co-workers and dozens of Alan's schoolmates were watching, too. Fort Worth citizens are naturally proud of the hometown boy who was the fourth human to leave his footprints on the moon.

Most watched on only one television set, but the Beans wanted to see all accounts and scenes carried by the three major networks.

Alan, who was born in Wheeler, Tex., in 1932, was only 2 years old when his father went to work for the Soil Erosion Service as a soil scientist. He was only 4 years old when Arnold transferred to the Fort Worth regional office in 1936.

Bean soon transferred to river basin study teams and worked on several projects in Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. He was living in Temple, Tex., when he joined the Army in 1943. His family remained in Temple until his discharge in 1946, at which time he returned to Fort Worth. He served in the Engineering and Watershed Planning Division until his transfer to similar work in Lincoln, Nebr., when the four SCS Regional Technical Service Centers were formed in 1964.

Arnold retired at the end of 1965 after his wife had a major heart operation, and required his continuing care. They returned to their home in Fort Worth.

"Alan was the apple of his father's

eye," said Mrs. Catherine Hartman who was secretary to Bean when he moved to Fort Worth in 1936.

"He was always popular around the office," said Mrs. Margaret Mitchell who also served as Bean's secretary.

Both ladies are still with the Fort Worth unit. Both watched Alan's development. And few could be more amazed that this youth is now slated to go down in history as one of the greatest explorers of all time.

He was a straight-A student when he wanted to be, his father said. He was making progress with his piano lessons, but preferred to join the boys in the neighborhood playing baseball or football. His sister, Mrs. Paula Peden of Fort Worth, maintains he could have been a good musician.

Arnold and Frances Bean have known all of the astronauts and have a closet full of mementos to show for it, including medals carried into space by each of the manned flights. Their prized possession is the small model of the Intrepid which carried Alan and Pete Conrad from the Yankee Clipper to the moon and back to the space ship again.

Were they afraid of an accident on the trip to and from the moon?

Arnold and Frances said they were not. Plans were too well made and the training was too thorough. But Frances added, "We were glad to know that friends were sweating the flight out with us."

Alan is the second moon-walking astronaut with USDA connections. Neil Armstrong, the first astronaut to walk on the moon, is the son of ASCS retiree, Mrs. Viola Armstrong, of Wapakoneta, Ohio.

Charting Agriculture

The story of U.S. agriculture—from farm inputs to world trade—is told in charts and tables in a new USDA publication.

The *Handbook of Agricultural Charts, 1969* has 158 charts, many with supporting tables, depicting the general economy, farm commodities, foreign agricultural trade, marketing, farm population, and family levels of living.

This reference book for economists and agribusinessmen is the combined effort of four USDA agencies: Economic Research Service, Foreign Agricultural Service, Agricultural Research Service, and Statistical Reporting Service.

Single copies of the *Handbook of Agricultural Charts, 1969* are available free, on postcard request, from the Office of Information, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

All of the charts are also available individually or in full series, in black and white photos or in color slides. Individual photos are \$1.30 for an 8x10 print and \$1.05 for a 5x7 print. Individual color slides are 30 cents each and sets of the entire 158 charts in color are \$19. All may be ordered from the Photography Division, Office of Information, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

APPOINTMENTS

DALE E. FARRINGER was recently appointed by Secretary Hardin to head an agricultural economics group in South Vietnam. He replaces Edmund Farstad who returned to Washington, D.C., as director of USDA technical assistance programs in Asia. Both men work under programs sponsored by the Agency for International Development.

Farringer will lead the three-man group advising the Saigon Government and the Vietnam AID Mission in planning development of Vietnamese agriculture.

Farringer has worked in the field of foreign agriculture since joining USDA in 1941. He served in various posts of the Foreign Agricultural Service including agricultural attaché to Uruguay. Most recently he was an area officer in FAS' agricultural attaché service.

DR. WILLIAM H. TALLENT was recently named chief of industrial crops research at the Agricultural Research Service's Northern Utilization Research Laboratory, Peoria, Ill. He succeeds DR. IVAN A. WOLFF who became director of the Eastern Laboratory, Wyndmoor, Pa., in August. Dr. Tallent joined the Northern Laboratory in 1964 after 11 years research experience in industry and with the U.S. Public Health Service.



THE GARRETT COUNTY (Md.) Technical Action Panel (TAP) has received a certificate of merit for service to rural Maryland in fiscal 1969. The County TAP was cited by the State TAP for arranging a consolidated agricultural headquarters near Oakland to provide "one-stop" technical assistance; for organizing local and Federal support for land treatment and watershed structures, especially in the Little Youghiogheny project; and for spearheading economic development activities in the county. Edward R. Keil (right), State Conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service, presents the award to William Poffenbarger of Farmers Home Administration (left) and James McHenry of Cooperative Extension Service. Other members of the TAP Executive Committee are Bill Nace of SCS, Elbert Riley of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, and Paul Mateer of the Maryland Department of Forests and Parks.



THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY of the Rural Electrification Administration's telephone loan program was observed in Washington, D.C., in October. During a banquet sponsored by the U.S. Independent Telephone Association, REA Administrator David A. Hamil (left) presented a special Certificate of Appreciation to Daniel B. Corman, manager of the REA-financed South Central Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Glasgow, Ky. Corman, a member of the REA staff in the early days of the telephone program, has completed 65 years in the telephone industry, and is "still going strong." Another certificate was presented to Orla L. Moody, AT&T, retired, for assisting REA telephone borrowers to become an integral part of the Nation's telephone industry. In the 20 years since the telephone amendment to the Rural Electrification Act became law, REA has loaned more than \$1.6 billion to 636 commercial companies and 235 cooperatives. The borrowers are providing modern dial telephone service to more than 2 million subscribers over 520,000 miles of line in 46 States.

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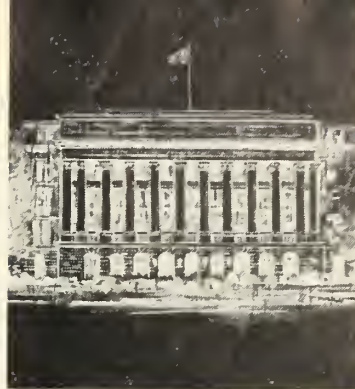
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EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

VOL. XXVIII NO. 24
NOVEMBER 20, 1969

Secretary Sets Rural Development Policy

USDA's role to further rural development was recently outlined in a major policy statement by Secretary Hardin. The role is not only to help solve problems that plague rural areas, but also to help make rural America attractive enough to stem the migration of rural families, thus relieving the population pressures growing daily in our large cities.

Speaking before the annual meeting of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges on Nov. 10, the Secretary said, "It is not enough that we think in terms of improving conditions and opportunity for the people living today in rural America. . . . We must make it a matter of urgent national policy that we create in and around the smaller cities and towns sufficiently good employment opportunities and living environments that large numbers of families will choose to rear their children there."

The Secretary's statement followed the Nov. 6 announcement by President Nixon of the creation of a Cabinet-level Rural Affairs Council. Membership of the Council includes: The President, the Vice President, the Secretaries of Agriculture, Health, Education, and Welfare, Interior, Housing and Urban Development, Labor, and Commerce, the Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, and the Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors. The President formally established the Rural Affairs Council by executive order on November 13.

Secretary Hardin said the role of the Council, in addition to bringing with it "the dedicated support of the President," will provide direction and order in bringing the resources and services of the Federal establishment to bear on problems of rural development.

The Secretary said the Department of Agriculture is "moving in several ways to meet the challenge that the President has put before us."

Every agency in the Department has been directed to provide aggressive leadership in its area, assigning appropriate resources and personnel to the rural development effort.

To coordinate these efforts, the Secretary has established the Departmental Rural Development Committee. Under the chairmanship of Dr. Thomas K. Cowden, Assistant Secretary for Rural Development and Conservation, the Committee has as its assignment, "to develop the vital policies, programs, and priorities necessary for the Department to carry out its rural development mandate."

Membership of the Committee includes administrators and deputies of the Farmers Home Administration, the Forest Service, the Soil Conservation Service, the Rural Electrification Administration, and the Federal Extension Service.

Each member agency will have specific liaison responsibilities with other Federal agencies. For example, the FHA will assign key men to coordinate with Housing and Urban Development. The Department will also maintain liaison with national organizations to help make their programs and services more available to rural people and their communities.

While Federal Departments and agencies can provide assistance through their programs and resources, the Secretary said, "initiative must invariably come from the communities themselves. . . . State and local policies for urban, suburban, and rural growth must be decided and promoted at the State and local levels." He added, "when local community leadership and private enterprise have shown the initiative necessary for sound development, Government at all levels should be willing to help."

One of the key elements of USDA's rural development organization will be the USDA Committee for Rural Development to be set up in each State. Each State committee, which will elect its own officers and develop its own operating procedure, will be convened by the Director of that State's Cooperative Extension Service. Members will include representatives of the Forest Service, the Soil Conservation Service, the Farmers Home Administration, the Rural Electrification Administration, and the State Cooperative Extension Service.



SECRETARY HARDIN chats during lunch with Martha Izquierdo, a student at the Shenandoah Elementary School, Miami, Fla. Secretary and Mrs. Hardin were guests for lunch at the school to kick off National School Lunch week in October.

Virgin Islands To Get Aid

USDA recently signed a working agreement with the Virgin Islands Soil and Water Conservation District to provide technical assistance to farmers and other landowners and operators.

Under the agreement, agencies of the Department will help the district, which covers the entire area of the U.S. Virgin Islands, to conserve and develop its natural resources. The district is eligible for funds, services, cost-sharing, and credit from Federal, State, local, and private sources to help carry out conservation objectives.

These committees will decide what kind of USDA rural development organization should be established on a local basis and will work closely with State and local people in support of comprehensive planning and development.

In urging the partnership of Federal, State, and local efforts, the Secretary said, "Each American has a role to play in determining the destiny of his country. . . . in creating a fuller more attractive life for everyone in both rural and urban America. . . . We can achieve this better life by joining together in common effort to reach our common and realistic goals."

THIRTY-FIVE USDA COST REDUCERS GET AWARDS

Thirty-five USDA employees and an agency received Special Merit Awards November 19 for saving an estimated \$3.6 million of the taxpayers' money. The awards were made at the Department's annual ceremony honoring outstanding cost reduction achievement.

In making the award presentations, Secretary Hardin said, "Today we honor a select few who have made significant contributions to the success of the USDA Cost Reduction Program. Through the recognition accorded these 35 employees, we pay tribute to thousands of other employees who, though unsung, have helped to improve our operations and to stretch our resources this past year."

At the end of the 1969 fiscal year, USDA agencies reported savings through operations improvement of \$41 million. In addition, improved management of commodity price support and other programs are expected to yield benefits currently valued at \$225 million.

Following is a list of award winners:

Individual Awards

JAMES D. ABBOTT, SCS, TEMPLE, TEX.—For superior management of the Great Plains Conservation Program. He conducted a special review of all contracts which resulted in many being eliminated and the funds reallocated to other essential contract work. Savings: \$217,200.

THOMAS L. BURGER, ARS, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.—For developing a solvent wash for removing insect eggs from plant leaves. In one day, ten times as many eggs can be gathered for research than with the previous hand-picking method. Savings: \$23,400.

RAYNOLD O. CANTRELL, C&MS, ARLINGTON, VA.—For proposing an improved method to record and report the results of daily moisture control tests in over 450 poultry slaughtering and eviscerating plants under Federal inspection. Annual savings: \$81,400.

CLAYTON C. CASE, FHA, WASHINGTON, D.C.—For performing an in-depth analysis and field test which resulted in the development of a farm and home planning assistance program tailored to the needs of each individual and for each particular type of loan involved. More efficient and effective use was made of FHA loan supervisory time and it was possible to provide assistance to more borrower families than under the previous method. Savings: \$152,000.

RANDALL J. COFER, FES, ATHENS, GA.—For reducing printing and publications costs for the Georgia Cooperative Extension Service by grouping orders, using a new printing process, obtaining outside funds to purchase 4-H

material and selling publications. Savings: \$32,400.

URIEL L. CORBIN, FS, PORTLAND, OREG.—For assisting in the development and testing of a more compact trail-building machine to reduce the cost of building trails in high mountain areas. Savings: \$258,000 annually.

WILLIAM H. DUBBERT, C&MS, ROSSLYN, VA.—For developing a procedure for systematic reduction of manpower usage in performing inspection at meat processing plants. Adequate and uniform consumer protection is maintained and the agency is able to meet steadily increasing workloads without increasing employment proportionately. Savings validated to date for 1969 were \$81,000. This amount is expected to increase substantially when data about more plants are analyzed.

W. CLARK EDWARDS, ERS, WASHINGTON, D.C.—For implementing a system which provided quick remote access to data files maintained by the Department of Commerce. Job completion time was shortened, capability and accuracy increased, professional and clerical time saved and need for outside contracts eliminated. First year net savings: \$51,000.

PAUL B. FOLKS (Deceased), ASCS, MANHATTAN, KANS.—For suggesting that an annual report of county office debts be prepared by computer. Formerly, these reports were prepared manually by 2900 county offices and consolidated in 50 states and at national headquarters. Net savings per year are \$23,800.

MICHAEL J. HANLEY, Jr., ASCS, SPOKANE, WASH.—For developing a clear plastic card holder to be attached to typewriters, permitting quick and accurate alignment of forms used in an optical character recognition system. The typist saves about 30 seconds per form. Savings of \$160,000 were realized in preparing seven million forms. The manufacturer has adopted the Hanley invention and it will now benefit all who use these typewriters in optical scanning systems.

O. J. HUMMON, ARS, BELTSVILLE, MD.—For developing a mechanical device which eliminated the need to hand mix specimen materials in the performance of tests for brucellosis, a cattle disease. Savings: \$125,000.

JAMES E. LEE, FHA, WASHINGTON, D.C.—For implementing procedures to further the delegation of loan approval authority to field personnel of lower administrative levels. This resulted in better service to applicants, more equitable distribution of workload and more

effective use of all personnel. Savings: \$237,000.

DONALD J. LUSK, FHA, SYRACUSE, N.Y.—For suggesting the disposition of borrower's paid-in-full case folders after a one-year retention period instead of three years. The results: Improved utilization of available filing space in 1,674 county offices and reduced purchase of filing equipment. Annual savings: \$13,400.

GERTRUDE A. NAPIERLSKI, CEA, CHICAGO, ILL.—For suggesting the use of automatic data processing equipment to eliminate copying worksheets, checking and proofreading of statistical tables on commodity futures trading. Savings: \$22,800.

ROY L. PLANT, C&MS, DENTON, TEX.—For suggesting that annual meetings, at which inspection personnel received indoctrination on conflict of interest and personal conduct, be eliminated. Instead, each employee is now required to submit a signed statement each year vouching that he has read and understands current instructions on these subjects. Savings on travel, salaries and overtime were \$17,000.

HUGH W. REYNOLDS, FS, PRINCETON, W. VA.—For developing a computer program (DEFECT) which indicates the best way to saw logs for a particular end use. Computer simulates, expands and projects the research results. Now, only one sample of raw lumber (5,000 board feet) is used for five sawing patterns. The old methods took five times as long and required five times as much raw material. Savings: \$22,200.

HENRY J. VICHE, FS, MISSOULA, MONT.—For promoting the use of pre-cooked frozen meals to feed firefighters on the fireline instead of setting up field kitchens. A better diet is now served at lower cost per meal. Annual savings: \$68,400.

J. ALAN WAGAR, FS, PORTLAND, OREG.—For developing a method whereby visitors complete and deposit a registration form which provides accurate statistics on the usage of developed recreational sites. The previous methods, using traffic counters, cost six times as much. Annual savings: \$22,000.

MICHAEL J. WOLF, ARS, PEORIA, ILL.—For developing a rapid and efficient chemical process for analyzing the composition of corn. This method replaced several hand operations and doubled the output. Savings: \$18,600 annually.

Spaniards exploring Mexico in the early 1500's came across the turkey, which had been domesticated by the Aztec Indians, and exported the delicious bird to Europe.

Dual Awards

BOBBY W. ALFORD and CYRIL W. HAMILTON, SCS, BROWNWOOD, TEX.—For suggesting a better on-site screening method to separate samples of earthfill materials being tested during the construction of floodwater retarding dams. Annual savings: \$189,000.

HENRY A. BAUER III and FRANK GEARDE, Jr., P&O, WASHINGTON, D.C.—For performing two intensive value analysis studies which resulted in: A timely decision to purchase rather than lease copying machines needed for the Department's centralized copier service; and switching to a less expensive and equally effective brand of copying machine toner. USDA savings from both studies: \$79,200.

ARNOLD J. BROMBERG and WILLIAM R. EGAN, ASCS, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.—For their suggestion which led to new authority being granted to USDA to assure lowest transportation costs to the government on shipments of butter. Purchase orders were amended to require industry to use mechanically refrigerated rather than ice-cooled equipment. More butter can be packed in each freight car at lower cost per pound and be better protected in transit. Savings: \$218,000.

JOHN A. LIVERMORE and BENNOR C. HATCH, SCS, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.—For their suggestion to use a corrosion meter, which they field-tested, to inspect the cooling system of automotive vehicles. This meter tells when it is time to flush and change the coolant depending on the amount of corrosion, if any, in the system. Unnecessary changes are eliminated and engine repairs reduced. First year savings to SCS: \$61,000.

ROY W. PLANTZ and JAMES D. KING, C&MS, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.—For designing a mobile, rapid defrost unit for use in pierside inspections of imported meat. Savings: \$26,000 annually.

HENRY J. UHLER, Jr. and DON F. MANNS, C&MS, WASHINGTON, D.C.—For their suggestion to modify purchase specifications so that canned pork and canned beef could be bought concurrently for the National School Lunch Program. This increased industry participation and resulted in larger offerings at lower prices. Savings for fiscal year 1969: \$707,000.

Unit Award

POULTRY PROCUREMENT GROUP, (RICHARD C. LARKIN, Group Leader; PIERRE C. BOUCHER; JOHN S. STILES; and JOHN R. VANDERHOOF), C&MS, WASHINGTON, D.C.—For devel-



A COMBINE OPERATOR examines newly threshed soybeans on an Ohio farm in a photograph taken from *Food For Us All*, the 1969 Yearbook of Agriculture. This new publication is the 70th volume to carry the title of Yearbook of Agriculture, an annual publication of USDA since 1894.

The 1969 Yearbook: Food For Us All

Readers of the 1969 Yearbook of Agriculture can learn: How to judge the freshness of a coconut; how to plan and prepare a church supper; about the complexities of getting food from farm to market to consumer; how USDA's food programs work; or a good recipe for Bohemian goulash.

The Yearbook, published November 5, is concerned with a subject dear to the hearts, health, and pocketbooks of everyone—*Food For Us All*.

The new publication is a popular encyclopedia of food for the consumer. It tells the story of food—in terms of the products from field to table, nutrients from soil and solar system to human well-being, and economics from producer to consumer. It focuses on the many

ways to choose and to use food for good nutrition as well as satisfaction and enjoyment.

A total of 62 persons wrote or co-authored the Yearbook's 46 chapters. Most are USDA specialists but they also include persons from other Federal agencies, State land-grant universities, and industry.

The 400-page yearbook is divided into three major sections. The first, "Food From Farm To You," is about the economics of food, from its production in the farmer's fields until it reaches the consumer in the supermarket or restaurant. It includes chapters on 20 years of change in the foods we eat, new foods, and the U.S. and world food outlook.

The second section, "Buying and Cooking Food," takes major food classes in turn—meat, seafood, vegetables, fruits, cereals, etc.—and discusses such things as quality factors, best buys for specific purposes, and cooking and storage techniques to preserve nutritional values.

"Food and Your Life," the third section, is mainly about nutrition, meal planning, and family food buying.

More than 170 illustrations—including a special 32-page section of color photographs—give added interest and information to the handsome yearbook.

Copies of the new Yearbook of Agriculture may be purchased for \$3.50 from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Limited number of copies are supplied to Members of Congress for free distribution. Copies are not available from USDA.

oping a system employing linear programming and computers to determine the least cost to the Government on purchases of cut up chicken from various suppliers being shipped to numerous points. This replaced a much slower method using desk calculators. Results: Nearly 49 million pounds of cut up poultry were purchased in fiscal year 1969 at savings in excess of \$315,000.

Special Agency Award

CONSUMER AND MARKETING SERVICE.—For an outstanding record of achievement in reducing the agency's injury frequency rate for five consecutive years. Cumulative savings since 1965: over \$1.3 million; Fiscal year 1969 savings: \$356,295.

A Loaded Shell

An "empty" snail shell, brought home by an Ohio resident as a souvenir of a trip to Hawaii, began crawling around the house. The shell and its snail-in-residence were given to a Canton, Ohio, woman who fed her pet well and watched it grow to more than five inches in length.

When the snail produced more than 100 offspring, its owner wrote to the Hawaiian Malacological Society for information on the care and feeding of her snail colony.

By airmail special delivery, *Mrs. Ibbby Harrison*, corresponding secretary of the Society, warned that the pets were undoubtedly giant African snails and should be destroyed at once.

Inspector *A. B. Drobnik* with the Agricultural Research Service's Plant Quarantine Division in Cleveland visited Canton and found the advice had been scrupulously followed.

Recently *Mrs. Harrison* was awarded a certificate of appreciation by the Plant Quarantine Division for her prompt and effective action.

The destruction of the snails, the followup inspection, and the award all made very good sense.

The giant African snail is a notoriously destructive pest. It combines size—some snails grow to six inches in length and two inches in diameter—with a voracious appetite for all types of plants and an ability to produce offspring in prolific and amazing numbers.

One group of snails—progeny of another "souvenir" from Hawaii—recently received national publicity as they appeared to be eating their way through a suburban neighborhood of Miami, Fla.

Hawaii is the only State where the pests are established. Even though they make spectacular souvenirs, the snails cannot legally be brought into mainland States.

APPOINTMENTS

JOSEPH R. HANSON, an executive long experienced in agricultural credit and the milling industry, was recently named Assistant Deputy Administrator of the Farmers Home Administration.

Hanson, who is a native of Elgin, Iowa, joins the agency after 9 years as a managerial officer in a milling firm and long prior experience in credit systems of the FHA and the Farm Credit Administration. Most recently he was vice president of the milling company subsidiary in Montreal, Quebec.



EUGENE J. MOOS

USDA INSPECTOR HONORED BY CUSTOMS BUREAU

A USDA employee and an employee of the Immigration and Naturalization Service recently shared honors for their roles in the seizure by the U.S. Bureau of Customs of drugs worth more than \$7 million on the illegal retail market.

At ceremonies in Laredo, Tex., *Eugene J. Moos*, Plant Quarantine Inspector with the Agricultural Research Service, and *Jack L. Morgan*, Immigration Inspector, received special certificates of award from Customs Commissioner *Myles J. Ambrose*, together with bonuses of \$250 each. The men were cited for their "alertness and efficiency" in the case which involved seizure of 7 pounds 2 ounces of cocaine. It was, according to the Bureau of Customs, "one of the largest, if not the largest cocaine seizure ever made on the Mexican border."

In a report of the incident, the Bureau of Customs stated that on July 30, 1969, the two inspectors were working at the International Bridge at Laredo checking vehicular traffic coming into the United States from Mexico.

During primary inspection of vehicles at the border checking station, Inspector *Morgan's* suspicions were aroused by the nervousness of an unlikely suspect—a polite, well-dressed, middle-aged woman driving an expensive 1969 automobile. He directed the driver to a parking area where Inspector *Moos* was checking vehicles diverted from the primary checking lanes. During a thorough search, the USDA inspector found six packages under the rear seat of the car. A field test by a Customs Inspector revealed the packages contained cocaine.

Hijackers Hamstrung

Several employees of the Consumer and Marketing Service recently complicated the lives of some hijackers.

A shipment of 961 cases of canned meat products from Yugoslavia failed to pass C&MS import inspection at New Haven, Conn., after being trucked there from port of entry in Boston. As ordered by C&MS officials, the cases of "potentially dangerous" meat were repacked in a truck under seal for transfer back to Boston and back to Yugoslavia.

But hijackers struck before the truckload left New Haven.

The Compliance and Evaluation staff of C&MS's Consumer Protection Program immediately went into action. Meat retailers and wholesalers were notified of the theft, given details for identifying the hijacked cases, and warned to check for the official USDA inspection mark before buying any Yugoslavian canned meat products. Information on the hijacking was furnished to news media; and C&E staffers, in cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other Federal and State officials, began a widespread and thorough search for the stolen shipment.

In Hartford, Conn. C&E compliance officer *Mike Cassala* worked with the FBI in conducting a "compliance review" in area food stores. Compliance officers *Max Spieler* and *James DeFrancisco* in New York City, *Frank Nuite* in Albany, and *Dick Garrity* in Boston made similar checks in their areas.

At the C&E Philadelphia office, *John Gould*, C&E Officer in Charge for the Northeast, and his secretary, *Rita Schiliro*, kept a telephone vigil—including over the weekend—in case any information was received on the missing truck.

A little over a week after the hijacking, the FBI reported all but 36 cases of the canned meat had been located in Wallingford, Conn.

According to *L. L. Gast*, C&E Staff Director in Washington, D.C., this is the first time the C&E staff has been involved in a case of the hijacking of a "potentially dangerous" product.

The woman was convicted by a jury in Laredo on counts of smuggling and possession of drugs.

Customs officials noted that *Moos* had been responsible for a number of important Customs seizures during recent months, including the seizure of five pounds of marihuana and 16 grams of heroin from five suspects who were later convicted.

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVIII NO. 26
DECEMBER 18, 1969

A "THANK YOU" TO EMPLOYEES

I am delighted to pass on to the employees of USDA a "Thank You" from President Nixon.

As I have said many times, we in USDA fully support the President in his determination to make all Government programs responsive and effective to the end that the public is better served.

To accomplish that goal, the President and I need your help. I urge all employees to maintain the outstanding record of the Department in ideas and proposals for more economical and efficient operations. By working together, we can make USDA an example for others to follow.

—CLIFFORD M. HARDIN
Secretary of Agriculture

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 29, 1969

U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

In the last fiscal year more employees than ever before received awards for their superior work and for their constructive suggestions to improve Government operations. A new record was set by the \$195 million in benefits from employee ideas that saved man-hours, conserved supplies and reduced costs.

These outstanding results could not have been achieved without teamwork and extra effort by many people at many levels of our Federal organizations. I am delighted to send a hearty and very personal "Thank You!" to everyone in Government for their contributions to this record.

In many areas of importance to our citizens, the Government must carry out new functions and achieve new or more demanding objectives. It is crucial that we search constantly for the most economical, the most efficient, and the most effective procedures to carry out these missions.

I deeply appreciate your help in this effort. I am confident that we will continue to improve this record of achievement.

Christmas Message

As we observe our first Christmas as associates in the Department of Agriculture, please accept my heartfelt appreciation for your dedicated efforts and accomplishments. Your achievements have been in keeping with the great traditions of this Department.

In taking stock of the year now ending, we of the Department can look back with some pride on our accomplishments. But let us rather look ahead to 1970 with a renewed resolution to continue to serve agriculture, and America, to our best ability.

The Nation has a new awareness of the problem of hunger and malnutrition in America. President Nixon has made dramatic recommendations designed to "put an end to hunger in the United States." The fact that we have a major role to play in carrying out this great humanitarian effort should bring a great sense of satisfaction to all of us.

We must continue to concern ourselves in every possible way to correct the inadequacies in farm income. Some gains were made in 1969. May they be greater in 1970.

The development of rural America as part of a new national growth policy offers unprecedented opportunities to improve the lot of those who have, to date, been by-passed by recent technological developments.

These programs and many others provide those of us fortunate enough to be associated with the USDA with unusual responsibilities for improving the lot of people—at home and abroad.

My best wishes and those of my family go to you and your families at this Yuletide Season.

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE



DAVID K. THOMAS, USDA's first "Project Transition" employee, looks over an IBM System 360 Computer. Thomas will be learning to program such computers in the months ahead as part of his new job with ARS in Beltsville, Md.

Future Looks Good To Army Veteran

Cooperation between USDA and the U.S. Army has given an Army veteran a leg up on a promising career. The veteran, *David K. Thomas* of Rockville, Md., went to work in October for the Agricultural Research Service at Beltsville, Md., as the first USDA employee-trainee participating in Project Transition.

Project Transition is a program designed to expand job skills of servicemen about to be discharged from active duty. The idea is to ease the transition to civilian life of men whose military speciality has limited application to nonmilitary occupations.

Training started for Thomas in July while he was still in the military at Ft. Meade, Md. While doing limited military duty—and still on the Army payroll—the young man spent half of his working day with ARS at Beltsville learning basic skills in programming and in USDA procedures. Following his discharge from the Army and now working for ARS, he is continuing his training to be a programmer under a home study plan furnished by USDA. At the same time, the former Army man has office duties to perform and is getting practical experience in programming.

Earlier, another serviceman, *Sgt. Roy E. Grunwald* of Cleveland, Wis., participated in Project Transition training at Beltsville while still on active duty with the Army. However, unlike Thomas, he did not continue the training after discharge from service.

Dr. Frank Dickinson, ARS Dairy Herd Improvement Investigations leader and Thomas' supervisor, thinks highly of the program and of Thomas' performance since being with ARS.

The new USDA employee feels Project Transition is a great opportunity for men separated from the service to learn new skills, gain a foothold in his future career of employment, and establish a good

Project Transition was initiated as a pilot program in 1967 and went into full swing last year at all major military installations in the United States. It provides for formal education at schools and universities, practical training in specialized skills, and on-the-job experience—such as USDA is furnishing.

ARS plans to expand its participation with Thomas as the first of what it hopes will be many veterans taking advantage of Project Transition.

Yo, Ho, Ho, And A Bucket of Bugs

Ladybugs by the gallon bucket form one agronomist's answer to a problem of producing a pest-free crop of pine seedlings.

The pest in question is the pine bark aphid, accidentally introduced from Europe some years ago. This minute insect poses a serious threat to tree nursery stock. Heavy infestations make normally lush seedlings appear to have been whitewashed.

Fortunately for the 20 million seedlings at the H. W. Toumey Nursery in the Ottawa National Forest, Watersmeet, Mich., Supervisor *Stuart Slayton* and his team of Forest Service technicians discovered that the common ladybug would rather eat aphids than anything else. One ladybug will eagerly devour 40 to 50 aphids each day, as well as snacking on various other insects, eggs, and larvae.

Slayton and his associates have arrived at a formula of about one gallon of healthy ladybugs to 3 to 5 acres of infested seedlings.

"Besides being 'dirt cheap'," Slayton points out, "this method of eradicating destructive forest pests is safe and easy and will not upset the balance of nature."

FHA Raises Minimums On Insured Notes

Rising demand on the national securities market for Farmers Home Administration loan notes has prompted the agency to establish new minimums on the amount of orders accepted.

Effective Dec. 1, order minimums for FHA Insured Notes were fixed at \$25,000 for 1- or 2-year commitments of investors' funds and \$15,000 for longer-term commitments up to 25 years. The previous minimum order was \$10,000 in all categories. There is no maximum on the amount of an order.

The insured notes represent a \$2 billion offering on the U.S. money market this fiscal year. They cover loans advanced by FHA for family farm ownership, rural town-and-country housing, and rural community projects such as water and sewer systems.

Sales of insured notes totaled \$945 million in the 12 months of fiscal 1969. The pace has increased this fiscal year to the point that sales totaled more than \$625 million in 4½ months. More than \$250 million of that amount was moved in 7 weeks of October and November following the increase of interest rates to keep pace with prevailing rates on the commercial money market.

Current rates of yield on FHA insured notes are: 8¾ percent for investment of 10 through 25 years; 8½ percent for 3 through 9 years; and 8½ percent for 1 or 2 years.

FHA Administrator *James V. Smith* said the agency's new order minimums will result in improved service to investors and generate more long-term financing of the rural improvements supported by FHA programs.



WILBURN "BILL" WILLIAMSON of Huntsville, Tex., (left) is congratulated by Assistant Secretary Clarence D. Palmby for completion of a 2-year tour of duty in Vietnam as an agricultural advisor to the Saigon Government. Williamson is one of 23 Federal Extension Service employees in Vietnam under a joint USDA/AID program to help Vietnamese farmers increase agricultural production. Before joining FES, Williamson was a farmer field man and county office manager in Texas for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. He recently returned to Vietnam to begin a second 2-year tour.



MINIMUM TILLAGE, a new method of farming, is giving good yields and maximum soil protection, according to the Soil Conservation Service. The new method is soil preparation and seed planting with the least necessary tillage. This keeps the soil from blowing or washing away. The airplane pictured above is one of the various methods of applying minimum tillage. The plane is planting wheat in a standing field of corn a month before harvest. The corn will be harvested and the wheat will grow and ripen for harvest among the corn stalks. The farmer not only has two successive harvests, but his land is undisturbed by tilling and has soil cover. Both practices protect the soil from erosion by wind and water.

ARS FINDS PLANTS CAN CAUSE BIRTH DEFECTS

Birth defects in animals were once laid to defective genes. Since 1960 Agricultural Research Service scientists have been showing that they are also caused by seemingly innocuous plants the mother eats during pregnancy.

And these animal studies help explain certain human birth defects.

So thinks ARS veterinarian *Wayne Binns*, director of the Poisonous Plant Laboratory, Logan, Utah. The relationship between the mother's food intake and fetal development is not absolute, however—results depend on the type of chemical involved, the environment, and the stage of pregnancy.

One of the most revealing animal defects meaningful to human medicine is cyclopamine poisoning.

Investigations by Binns' staff showed that cyclopamine is carried in false hellebore (*Veratrum californicum*). Although large amounts of this plant can stagger or kill a ewe, smaller amounts cause no obvious symptoms in the ewe.

The birth defects that result have some startling resemblances to the infamous side-effects from the tranquilizer thalidomide on human babies. When ewes eat false hellebore on the 14th day of pregnancy, their lambs are born with a cyclops eye (one eye in the center of the head). If ewes eat the weed later in gestation, lambs get leg deformities.

Another case of birth defects discovered in farm animals concerns cows grazing beanweed, also called lupine.

The deformity which results had been laid originally to defective genes or to nutritional deficiencies. Yet the ARS scientists showed that certain species of lupine are the cause.

Lathyrus plants, certain species of peas, new being investigated has double significance for man. In the Middle East, humans as well as animals eat this plant.

ARS scientists working with Binns on poisonous plant problems are livestock specialist *L. F. James*, physiologist *A. E. Johnson*, chemist *R. F. Keeler*, and veterinarian *K. R. Van Kampen*. They think that discoveries of birth defects linked to natural foods may well be important landmarks in the ultimate prevention of much suffering and hardship in both man and animals.

Plentiful Foods

USDA lists as Plentiful Foods for January: Fresh oranges, orange products, grapefruit, apples, winter pears, canned tomatoes and tomato products, broiler-fryers, dry beans, dry peas, and lentils.

EACH AMERICAN eats nearly three-quarters of a ton of food each 365 days. This amounts to nearly 3 tons a year for a family of four or 150 million tons a year to feed us all.

ECONOMIST TO HEAD NEW USDA AGENCY

Dr. Quentin West, career USDA employee, was recently named by Secretary Hardin as Administrator of the newly established Foreign Economic Development Service.

Prior to his appointment, West was head of the Foreign Regional Analysis Division of the Economic Research Service. He has also served within the same Division in the positions of deputy director, chief of the Far East Branch, and assistant chief of the Africa and Middle East Branch. He has traveled in all regions of the world and has represented the U.S. in various world conferences, including the bi-annual conferences of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Before joining USDA in 1956, West was an economist with the Organization of American States in Costa Rico and Peru and was on the staff of Cornell University and Utah State University.

The new agency headed by West is concerned with international economic development through technical assistance and training of foreign agriculturists. Previously, this work was handled by the International Agricultural Development Service which became a part of the Foreign Agricultural Service earlier this year.

Progress on the Great Plains

Nearly 2 million acres of unsuitable cropland have been returned to grass and more than 1 million acres of depleted and damaged rangeland have been reseeded under the Great Plains Conservation Program.

This and other information on the progress of the 12-year-old program is included in a report recently issued by USDA.

The report, a revision of a 1965 Soil Conservation Service publication, says more than 31,000 farmers and ranchers in 424 counties of the 10 Great Plains States have participated in the conservation program.

Authorized by Congress in 1956, the program enables Great Plains landowners to minimize the effects of drought and other emergencies through cost-sharing and technical aid from SCS.

Legislation signed by President Nixon on Nov. 19 extends the program to 1981. It also adds cost-sharing for fish and wildlife developments, recreation facilities, and the abatement of agriculture-related pollution to the more than 40 conservation practices available to landowners. Among these are: Livestock water development, terracing, windbreaks, and irrigation improvement.

ACHIEVEMENTS

TIMOTHY L. MOUNTS, a chemist at the Agricultural Research Service Northern Utilization Research Laboratory, Peoria, Ill., has received the American Oil Chemists' Society's Bond Award for excellence in content and delivery of a research paper.

His co-authors, **DR. HERBERT J. DUTTON**, also a chemist at the Peoria laboratory, and **DR. DONALD GLOVER**, professor of chemistry at Bradley University, received award certificates.

The award-winning paper describes studies of the conjugation reaction in two fatty acids from seed oils. These two affect the flavor stability of liquid oil products, like salad dressing and cooking oil.

* * * * *

DR. LEANDER S. STUART, Pesticides Regulation Division, Agricultural Research Service, Washington, D.C., was recently chosen president of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists.

Another ARS scientist, **DR. L. F. ORTENZIO**, Beltsville, Md., was named Fellow of the Association for his achievements and service.

* * * * *

WEAR K. SCHOONOVER, Director of the Production and Stabilization Division, Office of the General Council, was recently selected by the Football Writers Association of America as a member of the All-Southwest football team of the past 50 years (1919-1968).

Schoonover played football at the University of Arkansas during the 1927, 1928, and 1929 seasons. In 1929 he was named All-America by the late Grantland Rice. Other honors accorded the football star include induction into the Arkansas Hall of Fame in 1959 and into the National Football Hall of Fame in 1967.

* * * * *

DR. C. O. WILLITS, who recently retired after 30 years as a USDA scientist, has been named winner of the 13th Harvey W. Wiley Award.

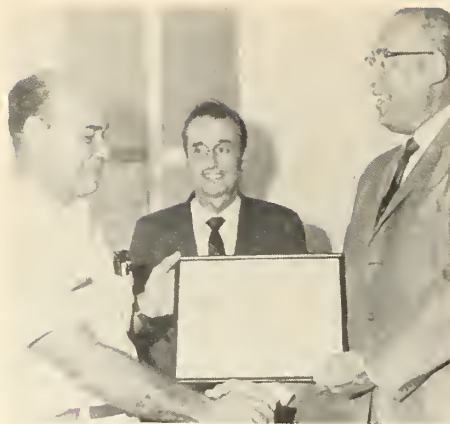
Dr. Willits, an outstanding authority on maple syrup, headed maple research at the Agricultural Research Service's Eastern Utilization Laboratory, Wyndmoor, Pa., since the late 1940's. He is credited with revitalizing the American maple syrup industry through his many developments and improvements in the gathering of sap and the making of syrup.

* * * * *

DR. J. H. WEINBERGER, Fresno, Calif., **DR. THOMAS W. WHITAKER**, La Jolla, Calif., **DR. JOSEPH R. FURR**, Indio, Calif., **DR. NEIL W. STUART**, and **DR. D. H. SCOTT**, Beltsville, Md., all of Crops Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, were recently elected as Fellows of the American Society for Horticultural Science for their outstanding achievements and service.

* * * * *

DAVID GRANAHAH, chief of the USDA Exhibits Service, Washington, D.C., was recently selected Art Director of the Year by the Society of Federal Artists and Designers.



AXEL L. FREDRIKSEN, sole Forest Service employee at the agency's Institute of Tropical Forestry project, St. Croix, the Virgin Islands, recently received a citation from the U.S. Weather Bureau for his work as a volunteer weather observer. He is the first observer in the Caribbean Area to receive the award. His volunteer work included personal observations and coordination of statistics from other volunteers, since the Weather Bureau has no office in the Virgin Islands. In the above photograph, Frederiksen (left) is presented the citation by Virgin Islands Governor Melvin H. Evans as Robert Calvesbert of the Weather Bureau looks on.

NEW OHE CHIEF NAMED

Jack W. Bain of Alexandria, Va., was recently named as Chief of USDA's Office of Hearing Examiners.

He succeeds *Benjamin M. Holstein* who retired after 33 years of Government service.

Bain, a native of Shawnee, Okla., has been a Hearing Examiner since 1946. He was one of four examiners named when the Office of Hearing Examiner was established in December of that year.

Previously, he was assistant to the Department's Judicial Officer and had served as senior attorney in the Office of the Solicitor.

The Office of Hearing Examiners conducts hearings and performs related duties under various laws administered by USDA which regulate the marketing of agricultural commodities and products.

Ten other USDA artists won awards at the 5th Annual Exhibit held by the Society in Washington, D.C. They are: **GEORGE BAKA**, **JAMES O'ROURKE**, **JAMES SCHLEYER** and **GORDON THOMAS**, all of the Exhibit Service, Office of Information; **BILL BROUARD**, **MARCIA BLAIR EDDINS**, **JANICE PROCTOR**, all with Arts and Graphics Division, Office of Information; **POLLY CICA**, Agricultural Research Service; **JERRY PAVEY**, Farm Credit Administration; and **PAUL STEUCKE**, Forest Service.

APPOINTMENTS

PHILIP L. THORNTON, Associate Chief for Cooperative Forestry Programs for the Forest Service, was recently named director of the agency's Northeastern Area for State and Private Forestry. He succeeds **James K. Vessey** who is retiring after nearly 37 years with the Forest Service.

As director, Thornton will be responsible for projects involving assistance to State foresters, private forest owners, and other public agencies and citizen organizations dedicated to protection and management of forest resources.

The Northeastern Area, with headquarters in Upper Darby, Pa., includes the 20-State region making up the northeastern quadrant of the U.S.

* * * * *

Two employees of the Agricultural Research Service were recently assigned to Rotterdam, The Netherlands, to do research aimed at expanding exports of American agricultural products.

RUSSELL H. HINDS, JR., industry economist in the Transportation and Facilities Research Division, Fresno, Calif., will be concerned with transportation, packaging, and handling of U.S. products for European markets. **DR. WILLIAM G. CHACE**, horticulturist with the Market Quality Research Division, Orlando, Fla., will conduct research to improve the quality of perishable foods and other agricultural commodities from the U.S.

Both men are attached to the U.S. Consulate in Rotterdam.

REA Administrator Urges Pollution Control

The Rural Electrification Administration has urged REA-financed electric systems to take a positive approach to pollution control.

In a message to 52 borrowers operating steam generating facilities, REA Administrator *David A. Hamil* recommended that top-level management of the systems keep abreast of established and developing environmental standards.

"This knowledge should be an important consideration in planning plant additions, locating and designing system facilities, and in operating the system so that the new standards can be complied with in an orderly fashion, avoiding crash programs and costly restrictions on system operation," Hamil said.

The Administrator also pointed out that "growing public concern and the rapid growth of energy consumption are making the tasks of finding suitable sites for power plants and obtaining rights-of-way for lines a major problem for all segments of the electric utility industry."

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